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Four Flags royalty: Gabrielle Gittens crowned Miss Niles 2025

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The new Miss Niles was crowned last Saturday in Grand Ole Opry style.

Seven young women and one young man showcased their red carpet style and unique talents to become the face of the community in 2025. When the dust settled, Gabrielle Gittens was crowned Miss Niles 2025 Saturday evening at Niles High School. Gittens inherits the crown from Miss Niles 2024 Amelia Rodgers.

The event was the zenith of the Miss Niles pageant, in which Little Miss and Mr., Junior Teen Miss and Mr., Teen Miss and Mr. and Miss and Mr. Niles titles were awarded by a panel of judges.

"It hasn't sunk in yet," Gittens said. "I'm in shock but I'm so grateful and thankful to have this opportunity."

Rowan Iwaniuk was crowned Mr. Niles 2025 and inherits the crown from Mr. Niles 2024 Paxton Daniel. Gittens was also crowned Miss Congeniality.

"The kids did incredible," said Miss Niles Pageant Co-Chair Katelyn Boyer. My expectations were completely blown out of the water. They were so good at listening to directions and they just absolutely shined. I'm so happy with how the courts turned out. Yeah, everybody turned out with selections. Of course, I have no control over the selection but all the kids were so great. I'm so excited to have all the ones that we have with us that were selected.

"I wish you could keep all of them but they worked so hard. I'm just really, really happy. I'm really proud and I'm really grateful and I get to do this."

Gittens attends Berrien Springs High School, where she's on the honor roll and is a member of the National Honor Society. Gabby holds offices including Student Council Class President and Historian of the Business

See GITTENS, Page A8

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Gabrielle Gittens and Rowan Iwaniuk were crowned Miss and Mr. Niles 2025 Saturday, Dec. 14 at Niles High School.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Edwardsburg Superintendent Courtney Szucs poses with outgoing board member Becky Anson following Monday's Board of Education meeting.

Edwardsburg school board recognizes outgoing member

By JUSTIN FLAGEL
Leader Publications Contributor

EDWARDSBURG — The Edwardsburg School Board met for their final regular meeting of 2024 on Monday.

Those present were greeted to three songs performed by members of the Edwardsburg Jazz Band at the start of the meeting.

Board members received a presentation about the Interim Credentials program at Edwardsburg High School. The program is a pre-apprenticeship technology program in the electrical field. It is designed for entry into the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers union by giving students a certificate upon completion and the possibility of skipping the first year of their five year apprenticeship. Five students are currently enrolled in the program while also taking electrical classes at Southwestern Michigan College.

The chairs of three subcommittees presented updates on their work regarding the district Strategic Plan. The subcommittees, which will continue to meet regularly, are focusing on topics such as recruiting and retaining quality teachers, a teacher mentoring program, upgrade to facilities, long term financial stability and projects, minimizing legacy costs, partnering with businesses and other schools, and improved communication through transparency, collaboration, use of technology, website upgrades, mobile apps, and virtual options for both the parent advisory council, and parent academies to increase participation.

See MEMBER, Page A8

A FRESH FAREWELL

Shelton's Farm Market closes after 77 years

By MAXWELL HARDEN
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NILES TOWNSHIP — A business that has served the Michiana community for decades closed its doors for good last week.

Shelton's Farm Market, 1832 S. 11th St., Niles, officially closed its doors Saturday, Dec. 14, after 77 years of service. The store was open to customers Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday to sell off the remainder of its inventory at discounted prices.

The date of Dec. 14 was chosen as the store's closing day because it is the birthday of the late Betty Shelton, wife of Jimbo Shelton.

On Sunday, more than 100 people attended a closing celebration where friends, family and former workers rekindled friendships and shared precious memories.

"It means everything," said Shelton's partner Joe Shelton. "All of these people are like family to us. We've got so many memories wrapped up into this and we just feel like we've been part of the

See CLOSES, Page A8

MAXWELL HARDEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Chloe Aalfs was crowned Miss Buchanan 2025 Saturday, Dec. 14 at Buchanan High School.

Chloe Aalfs crowned Miss Buchanan 2025

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

BUCHANAN — A new royal court has been crowned to represent the Buchanan community.

When the dust settled, Chloe Aalfs was crowned Miss Buchanan 2025 Saturday, Dec. 14 at Buchanan High School. Aalfs inherits the crown from Miss Buchanan 2024 Hannah Herman.

"I was in total shock," Aalfs said. "I felt like any one of the girls in the top five could have won as they all did amazing. This was my first pageant and I really had no Idea what to expect. It honestly felt like an out of body experience where my mind went completely blank in that moment. It hasn't really sunk in yet."

Contestants performed a dance routine before taking part in a question, a formal presentation and a fast walkthrough. Aalfs said her favorite part of the pageant experience was interacting with her fellow contestants.

"Being around all the girls and seeing how much we all improved from the first practice," she said. "I have grown to know that every one of us are queens and it's been fun getting to know such a great group of girls. And the Miss Buchanan chair people were amazing leaders."

See AALFS, Page A8

OBITUARIES
Walter Force
Barbara Wildeman
Walter Louis Fleury
George Huff
Daniel Smith
Nancy Parsons
JoAnn Burrows
Bonnie McCarthy
A6

FRANKLY
TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS
"Frankly, I need your best stock tips."
A2

Defense a big staple for Lady Eddies in 36-16 win over Bucks
B1

6 54708 09550 1

FRANKLY

TIPS, QUIPS, AND BLIPS

What is Frankly? It is where readers sound off on issues of the day. Have a tip, quip or blip? Call Frankly at (269) 687-7702 or email rich.cains@leaderpub.com

Since 2022 the United States has given more than 62 billion dollars to Ukraine.

It appears that some of my fellow American citizens are not accepting the results of our recent presidential election winner, our commander in chief, Donald Trump.

Trump was elected by the will of the people, "we the people." Therefore, those persons who chose not to accept our choice of our next president should take up their battle with "we the people."

What is with the total "freak out" of drones as of late? It's a hobby, get over it. If they are in restricted airspace, such as an airport, it shouldn't be too difficult to track down the owners and arrest them.

Thank you to the Michigan State Police for beefing up the US 12 patrols. There are still far too many tailgaters and speeders causing me anxiety.

Certainly there must be more qualified people to take these Trump cabinet positions? Almost all of them are total losers... "yes" men and women.

Frankly, I sure could do without the politics. Let's wait and see what this guy does. It shouldn't take too long to see if we are on the right path or not.

Congratulations to Gabrielle G. crowned Miss Niles 2025 and Rowan I. crowned Mr. Niles. Everyone had a great time.

Frankly, I need your best stock tips.

Shop local, buy local! More of your spending money stays local when you make purchases from the owners who actually live in the community.

Eggs at $4.00 a dozen? Is it really a bird flu thing or just more of the same old price gouging that takes place at all levels.

Our country will get killed in trade wars caused by tariffs. Raising tax on imports hurts the American businesses needing those raw materials and consumers will simply pay more. Inflation is trending downward, why through gas on the firel?

WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	70% Chance Frozen Mix	40% Chance of Rain	40% Chance of Rain	30% Chance of Rain
27° 16°	29° 22°	35° 32°	39° 34°	41° 37°	47° 42°

BUCHANAN RECEIVES GRANT FOR RIVERFRONT PARK

BOAT LAUNCH PROJECT

COMMUNITY REPORT

BUCHANAN — The City of Buchanan announced Tuesday that it has received a $230,000 grant award from the Michigan DNR Natural Resources Trust Fund for the construction of a new boat launch at Riverfront Park on the St. Joseph River in Buchanan.

According to the DNR website, the Buchanan grant application scored the third highest in the State of Michigan out of 105 development applications submitted. The award comes on the heels of last year's submission that was awarded $230,000 for an ADA-accessible kayak launch at Riverfront Park to be built this spring. Both projects were proposed in the Buchanan-St. Joseph Riverfront Master Plan Project.

"The City of Buchanan is moving forward boldly to achieve a vision of a mini-national park type of experience at Buchanan Riverfront Park," Community Development Director Richard Murphy said of the grant award. "We know that reconnecting more people to the water will deliver more health, quality of life, and economic benefits to our community and the region. It will take time, but we'll keep applying every year for these grants until the vision is complete. Having done the work up front on the master plan has been key to our success."

Murphy emphasized the project's broader benefits.

"Many rust belt cities and towns across Michigan forgot about their strong ties to the water when the jobs left, and economics got tough," he said. "Part of our economic comeback is to reconnect to this water culture. It's who we are. Water is the reason Buchanan exists. So, getting back to our essence is our path forward."

The Buchanan-St. Joseph River Riverfront Master Plan was facilitated by Abonmarche Consultants. The Steering Committee was made up of Buchanan community members including former Mayor Sean Denison, Michael Rowland, Jerry Flenar, Jeanne Harris, Fran Tuite, Phil Thornton, George Burgoyne, and Frieda Hughes. The City will continue to engage with community stakeholders including the Pokagon Band and community disability networks as the project approaches design and implementation.

"We are so happy and thankful to see that our Michigan DNR partners continue to support our vision with these investments in our natural resources in Buchanan,"

Mayor Mark Weedon said of the award. "This is an investment in future generations. I want to recognize the hard work and passion of city staff and Buchanan residents working together to reel in these competitive grant awards in order to make Buchanan a better place."

The entire A Vision for Buchanan document can be accessed at www.nicestplacewalk.com

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Photo of the St. Joseph River in Buchanan looking downstream.

Commissioners bid farewell to retiring employees, officials

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

ST. JOSEPH — Thursday's Berrien County Board of Commissioners meeting featured end of the year business as well as more farewells to retiring county employees and officials.

The county board will not meet again until Jan. 2 when there will be an organizational meeting of newly elected commissioners.

Those recognized with honorary resolutions included County Clerk Sharon Tyler, Berrien County Trial Court Judge Sterling Schrock and GIS Mapping Director Lex Winans. Also honored were County Commissioner Chokwe Pitchford on the birth of his son, Berrien County Sheriff's Department Quality Assurance Supervisor and K-9 unit "Thor".

Schrock was among those who spoke after receiving their honorary resolutions and summed up what they were all feeling. He spoke about his gratitude to the citizens of Berrien County for being able to serve them.

"It's been an honor and a privilege to have served the citizens of Berrien County," he said. "It isn't the folks who I've served who should be thanking me but me thanking them for the honor and privilege of serving them. It's been 16 years and it's beyond my ability to describe what it's been like, there are so many people I

See FAREWELL, Page A4

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Niles approves emergency purchase for water main, street repair

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The Niles City Council took steps Monday to address city infrastructure.

The council voted unanimously to approve an emergency purchase by the Utilities Department Water Division from Selge Construction Company, Inc. of Niles, MI for water main and street repair at a cost of $70,576.87.

A large water main break occurred November 3 in the 1400 block of Sioux Trail, near Chippewa Trail. The break occurred in the city's high-pressure district and has had many breaks over the last several years with staff needing contractors assistance in the past. The break blew a hole in the road and undermined the full width of the roadway, causing the road to buckle in numerous locations.

Selge Construction is a local contractor the city relies on when projects exceed its in-house skills and equipment. Selge determined that replacing the damaged section would not prevent future breaks in this proximity. Therefore, a more extensive solution was needed and consisted of replacing 180 linear feet of 10" water main (with its multiple previous break clamps), replacing a previously installed coupling, installing a new valve and tapping for new services.

Selge removed the damaged roadway and was able to find a paving contractor to repave during the warm weather in early-mid November before the asphalt plants shut down.

According to city documents, there is sufficient revenue available in the Water Division for this type of expenditure under Distribution Mains.

In other business, council:

• Approved the renewal of the Administrative Services Contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

• Authorized the Utilities Department to purchase maintenance services for the existing meter reading equipment from JPW Technologies, of Audubon, New Jersey at a cost of $3,635 for one year and split the expense 60/40 between the Electric and Water Divisions - Maintenance budgets.

• Authorized the Utilities Department to enter into an agreement with Corrpro Waterworks of Medina, Ohio for an annual Service Agreement in the amount of $4,875.00 for the inspection of the Cathodic Protection System of the City's five water tanks, charge the expense to the Water Division - Distribution Mains, and allow the Utilities Manager to sign the Agreement.

• Authorized the Utilities Department to engage Fishbeck, Inc. of Lansing, Michigan to amend our EGLE Project Plan for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) at a cost not to exceed $19,600, charged the expense to the Water Division - Professional Services.

• Authorized the Utilities Department to purchase a 2025 Ford Maverick pickup truck from Gorno Ford of Woodhaven, Michigan at a cost of $32,725, pursuant to the MiDEAL program, for use by the Water Division and pay for the expense from their budget.

• Authorized the purchase of a network video recording system from SHI of Somerset, New Jersey in the amount of $13,540.98 for use at the Police Department and utilizing ARPA funds for this expense.

• Approved a one-year renewal for DocuWare software maintenance and support in the amount of $10,131.79 through Applied Innovation of Lansing, Michigan, with the cost to be allocated based on individual department and division usage.

• Authorized the purchase of a security alarm system from FSS Technologies of Ypsilanti, Michigan at an initial cost of $9,300 along with a monthly monitoring fee of $40, for use at Plym Park Golf Course, pay for the system with ARPA funds, if possible.

• Authorized the purchase of a security alarm system from FSS Technologies of Ypsilanti, Michigan at an initial cost of $6,700 along with a monthly monitoring fee of $40, for use at City Hall, pay for the system with ARPA funds

• Authorized the purchase of new door access controls from FSS Technologies of Ypsilanti, Michigan at an initial cost of $56,000 for use at the Fire Department, use ARPA funds for the purchase, and authorize the Information Systems Manager to sign any required documents.

• Approved the CDBG Plan Year 2023 CAPER.

SMC's Bishop Scholarship endowment doubles

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — The Dr. Marshall E. Bishop Memorial Scholarship's endowment for math and science scholarships at Southwestern Michigan College doubled recently to $20,000, thanks in part to a treasure hunter known as "Bunky".

Bunky, Bishop's childhood nickname, lives on at Bunky's A Bit of Everything, which opened in April inside Schoolcraft Antique Mall.

His widow, Jackie, SMC's first computer programming instructor, is learning retail while gradually rehoming his many collections.

Mrs. Bishop also directed Indiana University South Bend's computer center and worked for the Edward Lowe Foundation.

Though she grew up in Battle Creek and lives in Portage, the couple considered Dowagiac home after raising their two children here during 26 years on Twin Lakes Road and at Magician Lake.

Bishop, the college's sixth president, passed June 4, 2023, at 80. Riverside Cemetery is his final resting place.

He came to SMC in 1975 to teach chemistry, became dean of arts and science in 1985 and was promoted to vice president of instruction in 1987.

Bishop became president in 1998 upon the retirement of David C. Briegel and served until 2001 when Dr. David M. Mathews succeeded him.

Bishop did not stay retired long, becoming president of Adirondack Community College in Queensbury, N.Y., until June 2007.

In 2014, Bishop attended SMC's 50th-anniversary celebration. Jackie attended Founders Day Nov. 1 for SMC's 60th anniversary, taking in two basketball victories with Camille Briegel and Linda Campbell.

The genial 6-foot-7 educator always dressed up for Halloween and as the Roadrunner mascot, initially a brown Big Bird.

In early 2000, at home on a Saturday, Bishop's phone rang. It was Tony the Tiger on the other end of the line!

An avid collector of Kellogg's memorabilia, his caller was Thurl Ravenscroft, who had been telling how Grrrr-reat! Frosted Flakes are since 1952.

Ravenscroft received an autograph request from Bishop and was amazed a college president wanted Tony the Tiger's signature. He not only sent an autographed photo and baseball, he placed the call from his California home.

"My Kellogg's collection already contains several Tony the Tiger and Frosted Flakes items, but this is the first time I've received a phone call from a talking tiger," Bishop said. "I have to admit I was a little speechless."

Mr. Ravenscroft, who died in May 2005, also sang the theme song ("You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch") in How the Grinch Stole Christmas.

At the turn of the century, SMC had a Speakers' Bureau. Bishop logged close to 200 presentations, including visually entertaining chemistry experiments.

Besides Kellogg's, Dr. Bishop's topics included chance and lucky accidents, Burma-Shave (the shaving cream advertised on sequential roadside signs), ice harvesting, the Erie Canal, the Michigan Clinton-Kalamazoo Canal and a general store he recreated in his basement.

Bishop had a strong interest in history and began researching the Erie Canal because he grew up near it. Other topics developed from work with the SMC Museum.

He was often scheduled 18 months in advance and presented as far away as Jackson, Hillsdale, Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.

Driven by curiosity, Bishop scoured antique malls and eBay for unique and hard-to-find items which interested him. That also included Round Oak stoves, ice-harvesting equipment, cow anchors, sports memorabilia (especially Detroit teams), Depression glass, autographs, tobacco tins and Beech-Nut. Whatever he acquired, he learned its history.

Family vacations revolved around antique stores and cemeteries, where Jackie pursued genealogy. On one trip to Connecticut, the couple, who met at an Oakland University basketball game, made a contest out of it.

"After we moved to New York, his collecting changed," Jackie said. "He got interested in collecting porcelain advertising signs for gasoline and sodas. It took three trips for the buyer to get them all."

Bishop was born in Amsterdam, N.Y., on Aug. 3, 1942. When his family moved to Michigan, he graduated from Pontiac Northern High School in 1960 and from Oakland University with a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1964. He also earned a master's degree in chemistry from Oakland in 1967.

In 2003, Oakland's Chemistry Department awarded Bishop its Distinguished Alumni Award.

His career began at General Motors' Pontiac Motor Division as an experimental chemist.

On July 13, 1968, Bishop married Jacqueline Winter in Marshall. Following Jackie's graduation from Oakland, they moved to Albany, N.Y., where Marshall completed his Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry.

When they moved back to Michigan and Bishop secured a fulltime SMC faculty position, he developed the chemical technology program, from which graduates joined Upjohn (now Pfizer), Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant or obtained advanced degrees.

The Bishops had two children, Eric, who became a chemist with Pfizer and lives in Maine, and Kathy who lives in the Kalamazoo area. The family now has five grandchildren.

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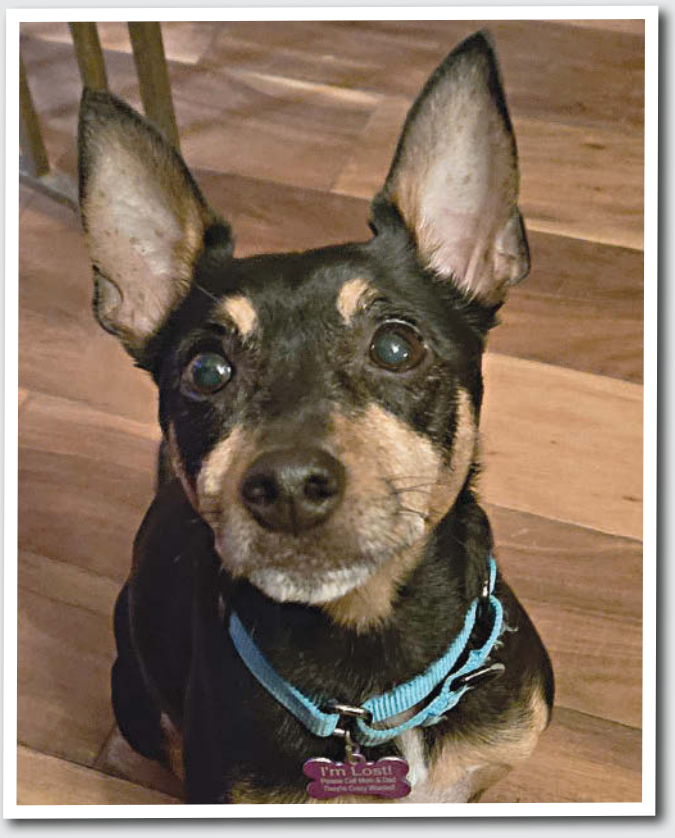
PET OF THE WEEK

Fritz is a miniature pinscher who has lots of love to give his new owner. He just moved into a foster home last week, so he is learning to relax and beginning to have fun. Fritz gets along well with other nice dogs with a slow introduction. He will make a sweet companion. Fritz has not yet tested with kids or cats. He is eight years old, neutered and current on shots. Contact Animal Aid at (269) 934-7729.



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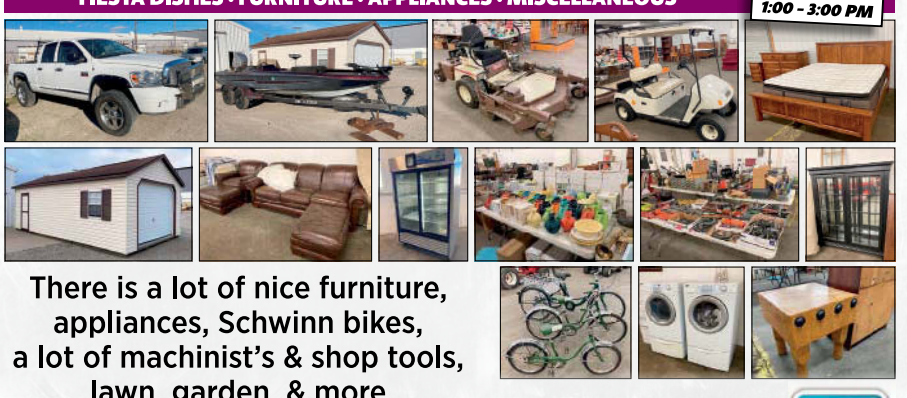

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Opinion

Lead with kindness in everything

There are so many horror stories of how retail workers are mistreated. Many people think that because someone is stocking the store shelves that they are below them, or that it does not matter how you treat them. Some may get mad at the worker thinking "well,I could not find this or that so it's their fault because..." Mistreating a store employee, restaurant worker, teacher, bus driver, gardener, etc., just shows the person your true intentions—which are not good. No one person is above anyone and we all must remain thoughtful of other people and not always ourselves. Yes, it can be frustrating to not be able to find something or to find out that something is out of stock. However, it is never a reason to mistreat someone else. It has gotten so out of hand with shoplifting and workers being mistreated that the 'New York Post' wrote a story titled "Walmart tests body cameras for store employees as retail crime surges." To have the mentality that someone owes you something simply because they work at your favorite store and "should" know where it is, or "should" be able to get it for you is a selfish way to think. Instead, in your frustration just remember that the worker is there to help you. Approach the worker and be kind and soft, maybe asking, " Hello! I am looking for the cereal aisle and cannot find it. Can you please help me find it?" It creates a conversation that will go your way, which is finding out if they have your cereal.

Turnock

When you let your anger out on them, it does nothing to help you with your quest for that Raisin Brand. Always remember the golden rule, no matter the circumstance.

Peace and love to you all. Peace and love to you all!

Joshua Turnock is a Niles graduate and a valued member of Leader Publications' Design Team.

NEWS

New Buchanan City Manager agrees to contract

By DEBRA HAIGHT
Leader Publications Contributor

BUCHANAN — Buchanan officially has a new city manager after approval of a contract with Tony McGhee at a special meeting Wednesday night. Commissioners chose McGhee to be the city manager from a field of 50 applicants after interviews conducted in late November.

Terms of the contract approved Wednesday include an annual salary $125,000 plus benefits, a $500 a month car allowance and a maximum of 20 vacation days a year. His starting date will be Jan. 13 and he will be an at-will employee and the contract has not set length.

McGhee succeeds Tim Lynch who served as interim city manager for a few months in 2023 and then came back to be city manager in late 2023 after Benjamin Eldridge's resignation. Lynch told city commissioners earlier this fall that he planned to step down at the end of the year.

Wednesday's special meeting also included a new agreement with Lynch to stay on part-time to help in the transition. The agreement with Lynch runs through Feb. 28 and calls for him to work no more than 20 hours a week at a rate of $60 an hour.

McGhee did not attend the meeting and when contacted afterwards, McGhee said he feels fortunate to have been selected as the new city manager by city commissioners. McGhee has been the vice-president of development services at Abonmarche since 2010 and is a St. Joseph resident.

"I feel fortunate to be selected as the next City Manager of Buchanan," he said. "The sense of community is strong and I look forward to becoming a part of the community as we work to collectively move forward."

He said he feels the city has been positioned well for success. "The foundation laid by the Commission, Tim Lynch and the staff have positioned us well for the opportunities we will be pursuing in the next few years," he said.

"We have numerous opportunities for attracting new businesses to town, developing housing for all, and creating a world class quality of life for our residents. I look forward to the downtown project next year and the promise it holds for our community."

During his interviews in late November, he said he had been watching the city for several years. "I've been watching Buchanan for eight to 10 years," McGhee said. "You have a real sense of community where people stick together and care. You have solid schools and the opportunity to build something. There are not too many communities with the natural resources you have."

"This could be a community where people want to live and have their business," he added. "You have the foundation with your quality of life, infrastructure and economic development opportunities to do some pretty good things for the next generations."

The only discussion at Wednesday's meeting came when Commissioner Dan Vigansky said he wanted part of a sentence taken out of the section of the contract concerning the city manager's supervisory authority.

That section originally stated that the city manager "shall have such authority to supervise and direct the performance of work and services of all City employees as the City Commission shall direct."

Vigansky said the last part of that sentence, "as the City Commission shall direct" should be removed. He pointed out that the City Charter doesn't give the city commission authority over city employees, leaving that to the city manager. "I don't want us to be micromanaging," he said.

Commissioner Raquell George had similar concerns and commissioners voted unanimously to take that phrase out after a brief discussion. "We aren't supposed to be in direct day to day supervision of employees," she said. "If we feel like he is targeting a person and not making the right judgment, we can meet with him."

Commissioner Patrick Swem said he was fine with making the change but would have liked to have known of the concern before the meeting so the city attorney could have been consulted for his opinion.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Niles-Buchanan NAACP hosts November meet-and-greet

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES — The new Niles-Buchanan chapter of the NAACP conducted a meet and greet last month at ALR Educational Health Services, 315 Main St.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is an interracial endeavor striving to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

The NAACP Niles chapter began in March 1942 and had been a voice for human equality by addressing local issues through advocacy and communication, as well as sought to educate members and the public on history and current concerns before dissolving in 2018.

Beverly Woodson was elected President and will serve in that capacity along with the other successful candidates: Paulette Johnson, first Vice President; Gwendolyn Finney, second Vice President; Freida Hughes, Secretary; Ylonda Scott, Assistance Secretary; Lorna Wallen, Treasurer; Stephanie Cashier Rodriguez, At Large Member; Lavoide Wilson, At Large Member; Cathy Harris, At Large Member; Charles Stewart, At Large Member; Tiara Williams, At Large Member; Dr. Lynn Wade, At Large Member; Barbara Kyles Morris, At Large Member; Dr. Alana Redding, At Large Member.

"We have a lot of plans for our upcoming year," Woodson said. "We had a good showing and had a lot of feedback from the individuals that were there. The community is excited.

Woodson said the organization is in the process of putting committees together.

"We will have an educational committee, a labor committee, a religion committee, a housing committee," Woodson said. "We have those committees in place."

As the president of the chapter, Woodson aims to give her neighbors and community members a voice and strives to bring people together.

"I would like us to come together as a unit," she said. "Unity is the key, so once we can get all together and work together, we can see a big difference in the Niles-Buchanan area."

The NAACP's next meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28 at the Niles District Library.

FAREWELL

Continued from page A2

should be thanking."

Tyler is leaving the county clerk's position after 12 years and a long career in public service. She will continue to serve the county as the District 12 County Commissioner starting in January. She defeated incumbent Commissioner Michael Majerek in the August primary and then won the general election.

Majerek was honored last week and thanked again Thursday for his service to the county and the community. He will continue to serve the county as a citizen representative to the Riverwood Mental Health Authority in a new term ending March 31, 2026.

In one of her last acts as County Clerk, Tyler swore in elected officials to new terms in office to start Jan. 1. She said she was sworn in earlier by Judge Arthur Cotter and she swore in Julie Wuerfel before she left on vacation.

Those sworn in to new terms were 10 county commissioners in attendance, County Surveyor John Kamer, new County Clerk Stacy Loar-Porter, new County Drain Commissioner George McManus, County Treasurer Shelly Weich, County Prosecutor Amy Byrd and Register of Deeds Lora Gnodtke-Freehling.

In year end business, county commissioners approved grants and agreements for the Berrien County Health Department, the Public Defender's Office and hired a new GIS director. They also renewed the contract with the county's Corporate Counsel Thaddeus Hackworth and approved salary tables for elected, appointed and other officials.

County Commissioners will get a $500 a year pay raise for each of the next four years-as county commissioner terms have gone from two to four years. The board chairman's salary will go from $13,165 this year to $15,165 in 2028. The vice-chair and committee chairs will see their salary go from $12,319 this year to $14,319 in 2028. The salaries for other commissioners will rise from $11,621 this year to $13,621 in 2028.

Others getting raises are the six elected county officials who will get three percent pay raises in 2025. The county clerk, drain commissioner, register of deed and treasurer's salaries will go from $93,174 this year to $95,969 in 2025. The sheriff's salary will go from $120,485 to $124,100, while the prosecutor's salary will rise from $147,792 to $152,226.

Similarly, appointed officials and non-union employees will get a three percent pay raise in 2025.

County offices will be closed Dec. 24-25 for the Christmas holiday.

Niles Daily Star

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COMICS & PUZZLES

ADAM

OH, MAN. SMELL THOSE CHRISTMAS COOKIES.
WHAT KINDS DID YOU AND MOM MAKE?
ALL KINDS.
TREES, HERSHEY KISS COOKIES, GREEN CORNFLAKE WREATHS, KRAMPUS COOKIES.
WHAT ARE KRAMPUS COOKIES?
MOSTLY COAL. I MADE THOSE FOR YOU.

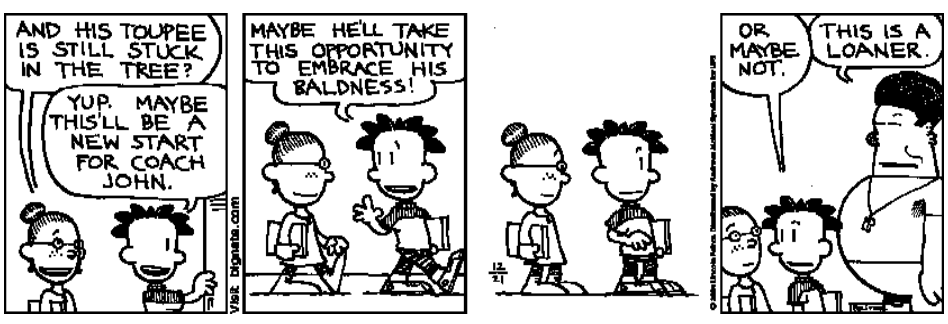
ALLEY OOP

UGH, DOC, CAN WE LEAVE THIS BORING TOADSTOOL NOW?
HAVE I TOLD YOU MY MUSHROOM JOKE YET?
ARE YOU JUST GOING TO MAKE A PUN WITH "FUN GUY" AND "FUNGI"?
ER, UH, NO. IT'S ABOUT, UM, SPORES AND GILLS?
I REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE! THE KINGDOM IS IN GRAVE DANGER!
NOW THAT WAS AN "ENTERTAINING MAN"! NO, WAIT, AN "AMUSING DUDE"... I MEAN A "GUY OF FUN."
OOH, SO CLOSE!

ARLO & JANIS

THEN THERE WAS DADDY, THE WORLD'S HARDEST PERSON TO BUY A GIFT FOR!
EVERY YEAR, MAMA SAID, 'UNDERWEAR. HE WILL ALWAYS USE IT.'
UNDERWEAR! THE CURSE OF CHRISTMAS MORNING! TO MY PEOPLE, GIVING IT WAS TANTAMOUNT TO TREASON!
AND EVERY YEAR MY SHAME WAS COMPOUNDED WHEN HE ACTED AS IF I HAD GIVEN HIM BABE RUTH'S BOXER SHORTS!

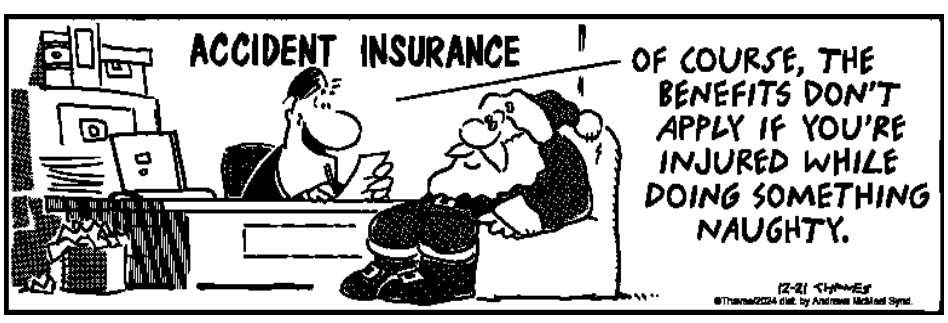
BIG NATE


AND HIS TOUPEE IS STILL STUCK IN THE TREE?
YUP. MAYBE THIS'LL BE A NEW START FOR COACH JOHN.
MAYBE HE'LL TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EMBRACE HIS BALDNESS!
OR MAYBE NOT.
THIS IS A LOANER.

BORN LOSER

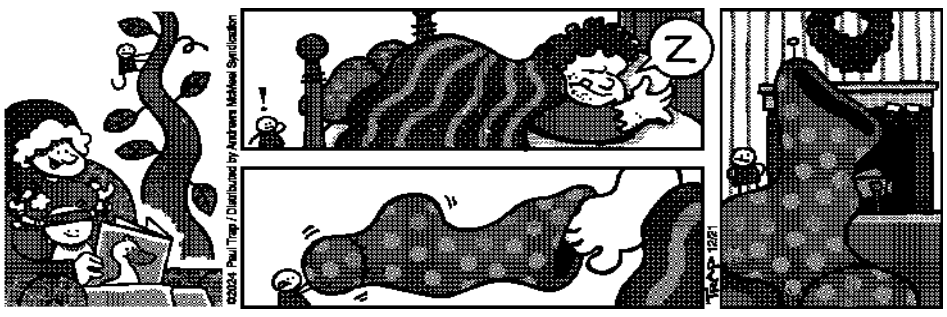
GUESS WHAT I'M GIVING YOU FOR CHRISTMAS— THE SAME THING I GAVE YOU LAST YEAR!
WAIT A MINUTE. AS I RECALL, LAST YEAR YOU GAVE ME NOTHING.
THAT'S RIGHT... SO NOW YOU'VE GOT A MATCHING PAIR!

FRANK & ERNEST



GRIZZWELLS

THATABABY



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SODOKU PUZZLE

HOW TO PLAY: Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

DIFFICULTY RATING: 5/5

ANSWER ON PAGE 6

	4	1		9		2		
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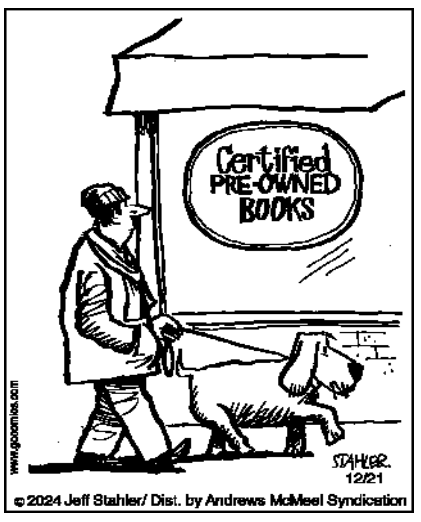
MODERATELY CONFUSED



REALITY CHECK

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

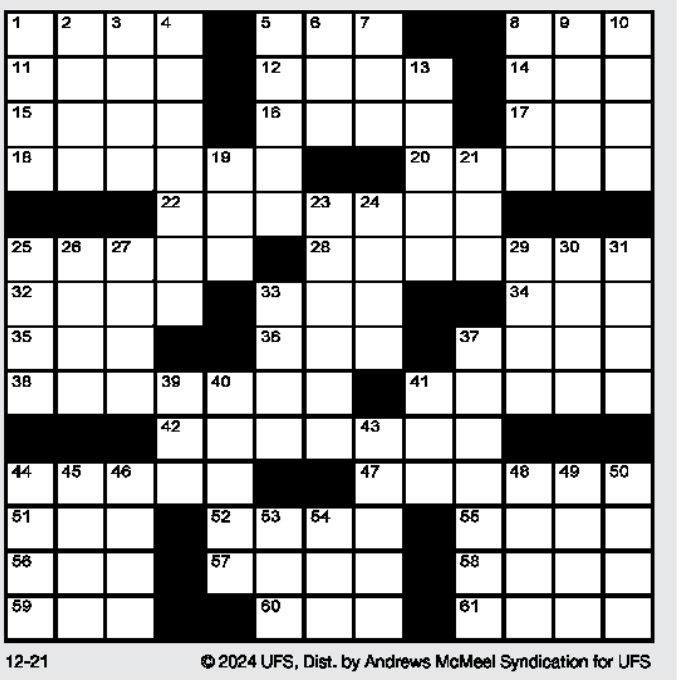
ACROSS

1 Fairy Godmother's rod
5 Poem
8 Suet
11 In a different way
12 Arctic ocean hazard
14 Fire remains
15 — avis
16 Birthright seller
17 Links peg
18 Tempestuous
20 Girder (Hyph.)
22 In sight
25 Blazer part
28 Interfered
32 Blame
33 Health resort
34 Cakes and —
35 Sine qua —
36 Simple dwelling
37 Flooring material
38 One in the know
41 Tear
42 Rhythmic sequence
44 Cringe
47 Boeing competitor
51 — Pasha
52 Soapstone
55 Big cat's thatch
56 Wallet item
57 Pole on a ship
58 Comedian — Johnson
59 Turf
60 Watch
61 Writer — Uris

DOWN

1 Conflicts
2 Bodily structure (Abbr.)
3 Detective — Wolfe
4 Snow White's friends
5 Complies
6 — Plaines, Illinois
7 Baseball stat.
8 Kismet
9 Lost
10 The ones over there
13 Trade alliance
19 A thousand thou
21 Cot
23 Tainted
24 Do better than
25 Actress — Anderson
26 Soon
27 Plays on words
29 Den
30 Actress — Fanning
31 Ownership proof
33 Molt
37 Pertaining to heat
39 Sorbet
40 Arrow cousins
41 Chem. or biol.
43 Pearly stuff
44 Popular pets
45 Ersatz butter
46 Gale
48 Expose
49 "Do — others ..."
50 Perceived
53 Zoo denizen
54 Place

ANSWER ON PAGE 6



12-21

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BREVITY

HEART OF THE CITY

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DEATH NOTICES

Walter Force, 78, of Battle Creek, passed away December 12, 2024. A Funeral Service will be held at Battle Creek's New Hope Apostolic Church on December 18, 2024, at 6:00PM.

Barbara Wildeman, 91, of Saint Joseph, died , Saturday December 14, 2024. Arrangements have been entrusted to Brown Funeral Home.

Walter Louis Fleury, 62, passed away on Monday, December 16, 2024, in Battle Creek, Michigan. Arrangements have been entrusted to and are pending with Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services.

OBITUARIES

George Huff

August 31, 1970 - December 11, 2024

George I. Huff, a longtime resident of Dowagiac, MI, and beloved figure in the local community, passed away peacefully on December 11, 2024, in Kalamazoo, MI.

Born on August 31, 1970, George was known for his loving nature and his capacity to bring warmth and joy to the lives of those around him. After more than two decades as a dedicated maintenance worker for Creative Foam, he won the admiration and respect of his colleagues through his strong work ethic and amiable disposition.

In his leisure time, George was deeply involved with the Cass County Derby, a passion he shared with his son Josh Huff and granddaughter Riley Huff. The derby was more than a hobby for George; it was a thread that wove family and community tightly together, and he will be remembered for his enthusiasm and enjoyment of these spirited events.

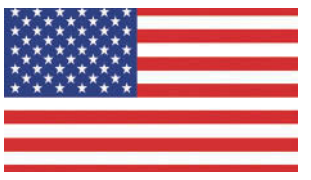
George's family meant the world to him, and he is survived by his loving son Josh Huff; siblings Tina Irving, Virginia (Charles) Collect, Shari (Randy) Osborne, Tammy (Edward) West, and Daniel Huff Jr; and his cherished grandchildren, which include Riley, Kayson, Bryson Reese, and Scarlet Huff. He is preceded in departure by his dear father Daniel Huff Sr., his mother Flossie Ottinger, and siblings Bill Ottinger and Flossie Huff.

Visitation for George will be on Thursday, December 19, 2024, from 10:00am to 12:00pm with a Memorial Service to be held at 12:00pm at Mission Hills Memorial Chapel, 61453 M-51, Niles, MI 49120. Gardens

Photos, condolences, and memories may be left for George's family at www.BrownFuneralHomeNiles.com

Floral orders can be purchased from The Flower Cart, 1124 N 5th St, Niles, MI 49120, or Flowers by Anna, 111 Commercial St. Dowagiac, MI.

George's legacy will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. His laughter, kindness, and the loving memories he created with his family and friends will be his enduring gift to them.



Daniel Smith

October 13, 1949 - December 9, 2024

Daniel Mark Smith passed away peacefully on December 9, 2024, surrounded by his family. He was born October 13, 1949, in Dowagiac, Michigan to the late Evelyn and Alvin "Bus" Smith.

His passion for adventure led him to Long Beach, California where he was soon joined by the love of his life, Margaret Hogue of Hartford. They wed on March 21, 1971, and made their first home there together before returning to Michigan.

Daniel was a loving father to his three daughters, always protective of their happiness and comfort. He was always willing to help his girls in any way needed. He enjoyed taking the family on summer vacation every year where he could indulge his love of exploring and curiosity.

In addition to a career at Jessup Door Company, Daniel earned his CDL and spent time as a long-distance truck driver. He would often entertain his family and friends with tales of his unique and often comical experiences driving across the country. In later years Daniel assisted as a caregiver at Miracle Adult Foster Care in Three Rivers. There he served as a role model, advocate and friend to the residents.

Daniel is preceded in death by his parents; brother, William "Bill" (Karen) Bachelor; and sister, Maude (Levi) Schoff. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; daughters, Tricia (John) Sullivan of Kalamazoo, Tina Batten of Three Rivers, Tennille (David) Michalak of Vandalia; grandchildren, Bailey Makowski of Monroe, Josey Bryant of Vandalia, Jerry and Jack Batten of Mendon; siblings, Stella (John) Jakee of Traverse City, Ruby Rampoldt of Niles, David (Cindy) Smith of Lakeland, Florida, Marie (Ken) Cook of Dowagiac, Wesley (Carolyn) Smith of Buchanan, and Alvin Smith of Dowagiac.

Arrangements entrusted to Family First Funeral & Cremation Services 52780 M-40 Marcellus, MI 49067. A Celebration of Life is being planned for a later date and will be updated on the funeral home website as soon as the date is set. In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations to be directed to Hospital Hospitality House of Southwest Michigan or Centrica Rose Arbor Place. To leave an online condolence please visit, https://www.familyfirstfunerals.com

Nancy Parsons

March 19, 1937 - December 11, 2024

Nancy Lorrain Parsons, 87, of Cassopolis, died peacefully Wednesday, 11, 2024 in the comfort of her family's presence.

Her life began March 19, 1937 in Saint Paul, Minnesota, the only child of Redd and Lorraine Hartman. She married Charles Lee Parsons Sr., who preceded her in death May 28, 1992.

Nancy could often be found canning, gardening, and doing yard work. She was accomplished in crocheting and enjoyed keeping her hands busy. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with family, sharing many special times with her son Charles and her granddaughter Shelby. Nancy will be remembered as a loyal friend, a loving, wife, mother and grandmother.

Nancy will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by four sons, Charles Lee Parsons, Jr., Terry Hartman, Jerry Hartman, Lenny Hartman; one daughter, Billie Joe. Hartman; one granddaughter, Shelby Lee McNeil and a host of nieces and nephews and many other family members and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Charles Lee Parsons, Sr. Family and friends will gather Monday, December 23, 2024 1:00p.m. for her service in the New Chapel at Mission Hills Memorial Gardens, 61453 M-51, Niles, MI 49120, where Nancy will be laid to rest beside her beloved husband.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

JoAnn Burrows

April 11, 1925 - December 15, 2024

JoAnn Marie Burrows, 99, of Cassopolis, Michigan passed away peacefully in her sleep Sunday, December 15, 2024.

Her life began April 11, 1925, in Roseland, Indiana, the youngest of three children born to the LeRoy and Elizabeth Phillips. At age 11, her family moved to a farm north of Buchanan, Michigan that is still owned by her relatives today. At that time the farm had no electricity or indoor plumbing. JoAnn and her brother Jim were schooled in a one room schoolhouse until high school. She graduated from Buchanan High School and got a job at the Indiana & Michigan electric company demonstrating how to use the new electric stoves. She also worked as a volunteer Red Cross aid during WWII.

JoAnn met William Thomas "Bill" Burrows at the I&M and they married May 13, 1950, in Buchanan. She and Bill had three children and moved to South Bend, Indiana in 1956. She started working at Stone Container Corporation in 1968 and remained there for nineteen years becoming head of Personnel. She and Bill then moved to Diamond Lake in Cassopolis, Michigan in 1973. JoAnn did a lot of volunteer activities and was active in her church. She loved riding in the pontoon boat, gardening, and flowers.

JoAnn will be greatly missed by family and friends. She is survived by her three children, Ann (Wes) McNeel of Palm Desert, California, Mary Frances Burrows of Mishawaka, Indiana, Mark (Christine) Burrows of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan; four grandchildren, Justin (Whitney) Burrows, Nathan McNeel, Julianna (Patrick) Gallagher, Kevin (Stevie Kay) McNeel; eight great grandchildren Teagan, Kade and Fennec McNeel, Adeleine, Luke and Grant Burrows, and Guinevere and Penelope Gallagher; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of seventy-one years, Bill Burrows, one grandson, Aaron Matthew, her sister Dorothy Yurkovic, and her brother Jim Phillips.

A private family Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady of Lake Catholic Church before JoAnn's remains are laid to rest beside her beloved husband in Fairview Cemetery in Mishawaka.

JoAnn will be remembered for her love of flowers and devotion to family, friends, home, and church.

The family prefers contributions in memory of JoAnn be made to Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church, 24832 US-12, Edwardsburg, Michigan 49112 (ourladyedwardsburg.org).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Bonnie McCarthy

August 2, 1947 - December 16, 2024

Bonnie Lee McCarthy,

See OBITUAIRES, Page A7

CROSSWORD ANSWER
From Page 5

W	A	N	D		O	D	E			F	A	T
A	N	E	W		B	E	R	G		A	S	H
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SUDOKU ANSWER
From Page 5

7	4	1	6	9	5	2	3	8
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9	6	2	4	8	3	5	7	1
3	7	4	9	2	6	1	8	5
6	5	8	1	3	4	7	2	9
2	1	9	7	5	8	4	6	3
1	2	7	8	4	9	3	5	6
4	9	5	3	6	2	8	1	7
8	3	6	5	7	1	9	4	2

CLOSES

Continued from page A1

community for so long. It's really hard to say goodbye but we are looking forward to what lies ahead. We couldn't be more blessed."

In 1947, Ethan and Rose Shelton moved their family from Chicago to Berrien County and founded Shelton Farms in 1947. The business grew through the years to include Shelton's Farm Market and Shelton's Wholesale Co. in Niles. In September, Shelton's announced it would be closing its doors and that Aldi Foods, a popular discount supermarket chain, will replace the Shelton's building with a new Aldi's supermarket on the site. The family will continue to own and operate its farm for the time being.

After decades of serving the community, Joe and his business partner Mike Shelton – president of Shelton's Wholesale Co. – decided that the time was right to close this chapter of the family's legacy and begin a new one.

"None of us are getting younger," Joe said. "We had an unsolicited offer from all Aldi's and the answer was no, no but a good thing that came out of it is it forced us to sit down and talk. Where are we going? What do we want to do? What are we missing in life? Because we've devoted ourselves to this for so long. Finally, Mike and I just came to the conclusion that maybe we should close this chapter, as hard as it is, and move on to what lies ahead. What made us feel good about all these is that they're going to bring a food store here that's going to provide value to the community.

"We provided value through the years – that's a tradition on this corner – so that helped a lot. We're selling into something that the community wants."

For Joe, working alongside family and building relationships with customers are aspects of the business he will cherish forever.

"Getting to work alongside my two older brothers, my dad, my nephew Mike and all the relatives that have been involved through the years," he said. "All the employees who have become like family – they're not blood but they feel like it. And then the customers themselves – it's been such a rewarding experience to help people. I think it's fun to come to work. We told our employees for years, 'this is the best way to do this until you figure out a better way and then that becomes the best way.' Starting out as a little roadside market on the banks of M-140 to coming here with the outdoor market and just the progress we made through the years, just makes you feel good."

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLES NELSON | ION BASE PRODUCTIONS

Shelton's Farm Market, 1832 S. 11th St., Niles, officially closed its doors Saturday, Dec. 14, after 77 years of service. Shelton's team members past and present met for a get-together and group photo Sunday.

'A family affair'

Shelton's Farm Market has always been a part of Niles Mayor Nick Shelton's life. As a youth, he remembers coming to the market where his mother worked after school and interacting with customers, many of whom becoming his constituents years later. Stores came and went over the years, but Shelton's stood as a model of stability for the Niles area. For Nick and thousands of Shelton's workers and customers, Shelton's was more than a simple farm market.

"It means a lot to not only me, but to my family to see so many people and the impact Shelton's has had on just generations of families," Nick said. "A lot of these people we're seeing here are here with their spouses who also work here. They worked together in this business and there's generations of families who are here. I've seen fathers and sons, mothers and daughters – it's a family affair and has always been that way.

"I spent a lot of time talking to customers and reminiscing about all of the experiences that people had here. We were non-stop running, and it was one of the best days I've had here, ever."

Nick recalled Shelton's last day in business. At the conclusion of the busy day, Nick's aunt, Kim Shelton, was the store's final customer. As the sun sets on Shelton's market, Nick said the experience of working in and around Shelton's made him into who he is today.

"Every lesson I've ever learned has stemmed from my dad and my grandpa and I'll always appreciate that and I'll carry that forward," Nick said. "Just the value of hard work and integrity and treating people the right way has been so important. Being able to be here has helped me connect to all of the members in our community in a different way and that's been an experience that I'll cherish forever."

Retail Market Manager Chad Geister, who is married to Joe's daughter, Rebecca, has been part of the Shelton's Farm Market family for more than 20 years. Geister said the aspect of the job he appreciated the most was the old-fashioned customer service.

"You take care in really establishing relationships," he said. "Our customers weren't just customers, they were friends. They've been with us a long time. I hope that our employees that were here carry that forward to the other places they're at."

According to Geister, Shelton's reputation for quality customer service extends from Michiana and beyond. Several businesses have reached out to Geister regarding Shelton's employees looking for work after the store closes.

"We got several of those calls because they know what kind of people we hire and cultivate and that means a lot," he said. "I don't know who takes over that in this community – businesses that are willing to start with kids and turn them into functional adults. Most places, when you try to apply, they want 10 years of experience out of the gate. They don't really work on taking a chance on fresh people and that was definitely something that we did, and we hope that niche can still be followed somewhere in the community."

GITTENS

Continued from page A1

Professionals of America. She has been recognized for her success in Science Olympiad, Choir Solo and Ensemble and track. Outside of her studies, Gittens enjoys mentoring area youth as well as participating in theater and dance. After graduation, Gabrielle plans to attend MIT for mechanical engineering and political science. She then hopes to transfer to Harvard to pursue a law degree.

"I knew this was going to be a great opportunity based on friends who have done it in the past," she said. "I knew I'd be able to serve my community and I'd also be able to get a good experience, make new friends and meet new people, so that was the main reason I did it and I'm so thankful that I did."

The pageant's theme was the "Grand Ole Opry: A Centennial Celebration." The Grand Ole Opry is a famous regular live country-music venue in Nashville, Tennessee turning 100 years old in 2025. Contestants performed a dance routine before taking part in a question, a "commercial" presentation where each contestant selected a Grand Ole Opry member and wrote and performed a commercial to advertise an album, product or song of theirs, a formal presentation and a fast walkthrough.

When asked about a time she achieved something worth celebrating, Gittens said participating in a ballet dance performance of The Nutcracker was an event she will not soon forget.

"Ever since I was little, I used to look up to the dancers who danced on the big stage," she said. "Getting to achieve my dream of being a part of it was really fulfilling for me and I think that is one of the achievements that I can celebrate this year."

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Court photo: Back row, from left: Kinley Weston, Emma Williams, Gabrielle Gittens, Rowan Iwaniuk, Kylie Conn, Shelby Snook, Alexis McCombs. Front, from left: Maddie Haff, Madison Rodriguez, Elaine Simons, Izabelle Wilson, Mya Moore, Lyle Unger, Sophia Unger.

Gittens said her favorite part of the pageant experience was meeting and getting to know the downtown Niles business owners.

"It was really nice because they were all so sweet," she said. "They really represented Niles in my opinion with how open and kind they were and willing to support them."

With the crown secured, Gittens will now represent Buchanan in the 2025 Blossomtime Festival in April. Established in 1906, Blossomtime is Michigan's oldest and largest multi-community festival. The pageant is looking forward to Gittens' and Iwaniuk's reign.

"She is so sweet," said Pageant Co-Chair Katelyn Boyer. "I think the fact that she got crowned Miss Congeniality as well as Miss Niles speaks for itself. She really shined in her interview and backstage together with contestants – you can't fake authenticity like that. We're so excited that we get to work with her and Rowan this year. They're gonna be fantastic representatives."

Gittens is looking forward to representing Niles in Blossomtime and getting to know her court.

"Right now, Blossomtime is definitely the biggest thing to look forward to," she said. "But I'm also so excited to get closer to my court and get to know the Littles."

Joining Gittens in her court of honor is Emma Williams, who was crowned first runner-up;Kylie Conn, who was crowned second runner-up; Iwaniuk as Mr. Niles.

Miss Niles Pageant results:

- Miss Niles, Miss Congeniality – Grabrielle Gittens
- Mr. Niles – Rowan Iwaniuk
- Miss Niles 1st Runner-Up – Emma Williams
- Miss Niles 2nd Runner-Up – Kylie Conn
- Miss Teen Niles – Shelby Snook
- Miss Teen Niles 1st Runner-Up – Alexis McCombs
- Miss Teen Niles 2nd Runner-Up – Kenley Weston
- Miss Junior Teen Niles – Izabelle Wilson
- Miss Junior Teen Niles 1st Runner-Up – Elaine Simons
- Miss Junior Teen Niles 2nd Runner-Up – Mya Moore
- Little Miss Niles – Madison Rodriguez
- Little Miss Niles 1st Runner-Up – Sophia Unger
- Little Miss Niles 2nd Runner-Up – Maddie Haff
- Little Mr. Niles – Lyle Unger

OBITUARIES

Continued from page A6

77, of Dowagiac, passed away on Monday, December 16, 2024 at her home in Dowagiac.

Bonnie was born on August 2, 1947, in Dowagiac, the daughter of the late Floyd and Virginia (Soule) Edgerly. She married Charles on December 14, 1968, and just recently celebrated 56 years beautiful years together. She was a cosmetologist who owned and operated Cleopatra's Hair Hut in Cassopolis for over 40 years, closing in 2020. Throughout her life, Bonnie was known for her lifelong dedication to North Red Hill 4H, as a leader for 60 years. In addition, Bonnie was a lifelong member of the Eastern Star.

Bonnie will be missed by her husband - Charles "Chuck" McCarthy; two sons, Robert "Bobby" ("Little" Bonnie Swan) McCarthy and Charles "Charlie" (Kim Howard) McCarthy; eight grandchildren - Danyell Roberts, Tonya Roberts, Elissa Roberts, Grace McCarthy, Isabell McCarthy, Katie Howard, Jamie Howard, and Ethan McCarthy; seven great-grandchildren - Isaiah, Atreus, Oliver, Persephone, Emelia, Jaxson and Wesley; brother-Burton(Jennifer) Edgerly; two sisters - Beverly Rajzer, and Betty (David) Groth; cousin, Wells Edgerly; brother-in-law - Mike Jendrasiak; and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

She is preceded in death by a sister, Barbara Jendrasiak; and brother-in-law - Steve Rajzer.

A service to celebrate Bonnie's life will be held at 5:00 PM on Friday, December 20, 2024, at Clark Chapel - Starks Family Funeral Homes, 405 Center St, Dowagiac, where friends may visit with the family from 2:00 PM until the time of service. Memorial contributions in Bonnie's name may be directed to the family to assist with funeral expenses. Please visit Bonnie's personalized webpage to share a memory or leave a condolence to her family at www.clarkch.com.

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MEMBER

Continued from page A1

Outgoing Board of Education Secretary, Becky Anson, was recognized as the longest standing board member and was presented with a plaque by Superintendent Dr. Courtney Szucs and the Board of Education. Anson has served on the board for twelve years.

The board adopted adjustments to the 2024-2025 General Fund Budget, after an explanation from Director of Finance & Operations, Gail Enders.

Also approved was a middle school trip to Japan discussed at the November meeting. The trip will take place in the summer of 2026 and is open to students who will have just finished seventh, eighth, and ninth grades at the time of the trip. The cost is paid for by families of participating students.

The meeting included the payment of invoices, as well as the second reading and adoption of new policies relating to school board orientation and compliance updates to match the State of Michigan Education Department General Administrative Regulations relating to employment of personnel for co-curricular activities, the opioid antagonist commonly known as Narcan, student accidents, student conduct, artificial intelligence, and criminal justice information security.

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

From left: Coy Weinberg, Zoe Griggs, Chloe Aalfs, Ava Graham, Brooke Strefling, Bodie Bryans, Landon Fankhauser.

AALFS

Continued from page A1

Joining Aalfs in her court of honor is Zoe Griggs, who was crowned first runner-up; Ava Graham, who was crowned second runner-up; Brooke Strefling, who was crowned Miss Congeniality; Coy Weinberg, Bodie Bryans and Landon Fankhouser, who were named Mr. Buchanan representatives.

"I am looking forward to making memories with my court, meeting new people and getting more involved in my community," she said.

Aalfs is a senior at Buchanan High School. She is also a four-year varsity volleyball player and a two-time team captain who has received all-state, all-region and all-conference honors for her play on the court. Aalfs is currently doing an internship at Beacon Memorial Hospital – where she also volunteers – for the Allied Health Program and is involved in Health Occupations Students of America where she earned a gold medal at the HOSA Regional Leadership Conference to qualify for state.

Aalfs, who plans to attend a four-year university majoring in psychiatric nursing while playing collegiate volleyball, said her sports background helped prepare her for the pageant.

"It has helped me develop leadership skills, self confidence, communication and perseverance on and off the court. I think by going through the recruiting process, it helped me in being comfortable in my interview with the judges as well."

Aalfs encourages the next generation of young people to participate in future pageants.

"You never know what will happen if you don't try," she said. "Just always be yourself and stay true to what you know. The judges want to see your genuine authentic self."

With her crown secured, Aalfs will now represent Buchanan in the 2025 Blossomtime Festival in April. Established in 1906, Blossomtime is Michigan's oldest and largest multi-community festival.

"I am honored to represent Buchanan," Aalfs said. "I want to inspire others and be a role model to all the younger girls. I am beyond grateful for this opportunity and can't wait to take on this responsibility. I have some big shoes to fill."

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Niles Daily Star
Sports

GOT RESULTS?
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BASKETBALL

Brandywine hoops teams sweep Dowagiac

By MAXWELL HARDEN
max.harden@leaderpub.com

NILES TOWNSHIP — The Brandywine girls and boys basketball teams took care of business against Dowagiac at home Friday, Dec. 13.

The girls won 61-26 and the boys won 69-52.

Adeline and Lily Gill led a balanced Bobcat scoring attack with 13 and 12 points respectively and Karleigh Byrd had 11 points while Lexi Troup and Miley Young scored nine points apiece.

The Brandywine girls led 41-10 at halftime and by as many as 46 during the game, using their depth and experience to their advantage.

"We had a bit of a sluggish start," said Brandywine coach Josh Hood. Overall, we're playing really good defense, they're playing hard. When you can sub five in, five out and keep enthusiasm and defensive pressure, that says a lot about the depth of our program. The girls have worked really hard, practiced really hard so I'm really proud of our start."

Marlie Carpenter led Dowagiac with 10 points and Evie Loch added six.

Brandywine is a great team," said Dowagiac coach Craig Schau. "Josh is a great coach. After the game I told our girls that I'm super proud of them for not giving up and continuing to fight. That's a really, really good Brandywine team so all we can do is control our effort and they played hard."

The Bobcats are 4-0 to start the season and have their sights set on returning to the Breslin Center for the opportunity to hoist a Division 3 state championship after finishing as runner-up last year.

"I think the main focus right now is staying hungry," Hood said. It's not about who we're playing right now,

See HOOPS, Page B2

TANYA HAGEN | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

WRESTLING

SUBMITTED | LEADER PUBLICATIONS

Ward signs with Grand Valley women's wrestling

STAFF REPORT

NILES — A local grappler is taking her talents to the next level.

Niles wrestler Maddison Ward signed with Grand Valley State University Monday to compete for the school's women's wrestling team.

Ward, a senior, will join the Lakers' women's wrestling team in 2025, a year after its inaugural season. She will wrestle for new coach Jake Short, who was tabbed by the university to run the program in August 2023.

Grand Valley State relaunched its men's wrestling program in 2021 and began competing as a varsity sport last year.

Ward, who is a multiple-time state qualifier, placed seventh in the state in 2022 and third in 2023 before winning the state championship in the 170-pound weight class in 2024. After spending three years at Brandywine, Ward transferred to Niles this year and is off to a strong start. She is 7-0 on this season and 111-13 for her high school career.

VOLLEYBALL

Amie Schutz signs with SMC volleyball

COMMUNITY REPORT

DOWAGIAC — Amie Schutz has signed her NJCAA Letter of Intent to play volleyball for Head Coach Jenny Nate and the SMC Roadrunners.

A 2023 graduate of Valparaiso High School, Schutz has spent two seasons at Purdue University Northwest, redshirting her freshman year, and will transfer to SMC for the Spring 2025 semester to continue her studies in psychology. This fall, she played 20 sets in eight total matches for the NCAA Division II Pride.

Coach Nate said, "Amie Schutz is a versatile, talented

See SMC, Page B2

BASKETBALL

DEFENSE A BIG STAPLE FOR LADY EDDIES IN 36-16 WIN OVER BUCKS

By Scott Hassinger
Leader Publications Contributor

EDWARDSBURG — A solid defense has been the saving grace for the Edwardsburg girls basketball team in its first few games.

The Eddies relied on another stingy effort on the defensive end yet again as they pulled out a 36-16 non-conference victory at home Tuesday over Buchanan.

The win improves Scott Rodeslier's Lady Eddies to 4-2 overall, while Buchanan slips to 2-4.

"We struggled with our shooting for the first three quarters and one of our starters, Kourtney Zarycki, left the game with an injury right before halftime and never played in the second half. I thought we were getting good shots, but they just weren't falling for us. Thankfully in the fourth quarter they started going in," Rodeslier said.

"Our defense held us in this game just like it has all season. That's kind've been our calling card."

When the Eddies finally found its shooting touch it was senior guard Maddie Pobuda who answered the call.

Pobuda drained a trio of three pointers to score nine of her 12 points in a decisive fourth quarter as Edwardsburg outscored Buchanan 15-0.

A 5-foot-7 guard, Pobuda also drained a triple in the opening stanza to help spark Edwardsburg to a 7-2 advantage.

Edwardsburg made all six of their free-throw attempts in a second quarter that saw the Eddies outcore the Lady Bucks 10-9 and increase its advantage to six points, 17-11 entering halftime.

Buchanan created some anxious moments for Edwardsburg fans though during the third quarter.

The Lady Bucks pulled within three points (17-14) on an 8-foot jumper by its star 6-2 senior center Alyssa Carson early in the period.

Junior postplayer Mya Eberlein scored six of her 10 points for Edwardsburg in the third to send the Eddies into the final eight minutes with a 21-16 lead.

Zarycki added six points to the Eddies' cause, while Ella Zache tallied four and Shelby Laubach and Kya Shiver produced two points each for the winners.

Edwardsburg outrebounded Buchanan 23-17.

Zache and Eberlein grabbed five boards each for Edwardsburg.

Buchanan was led on the boards by Carson with six rebounds and Kate Ailes snagged four.

The Bucks were led in scoring by Carson with eight, while Ailes and Aspen Berry contributed four each.

Big goals lie ahead for Edwardsburg as they will enter the Christmas Break after Thursday's home game with Sturgis.

"We want to challenge for a conference and district championship. Our goal is to keep playing better as a team everyday so we can reach those kind of goals and be playing our best basketball at the end of the year," Rodeslier said.

Edwardsburg is still a fairly young squad with Zarycki and Pobuda as the two lone seniors. Eberlein and Liyah Worthington are the only juniors, while the rest of the team is comprised of sophomores Laubach, Zache, Nanette DuFour and Shier, along with freshmen Reaghan Jenks, Delaney Schantz, Kaylee Scott, Shyann Flanery and Harlow Gropp.

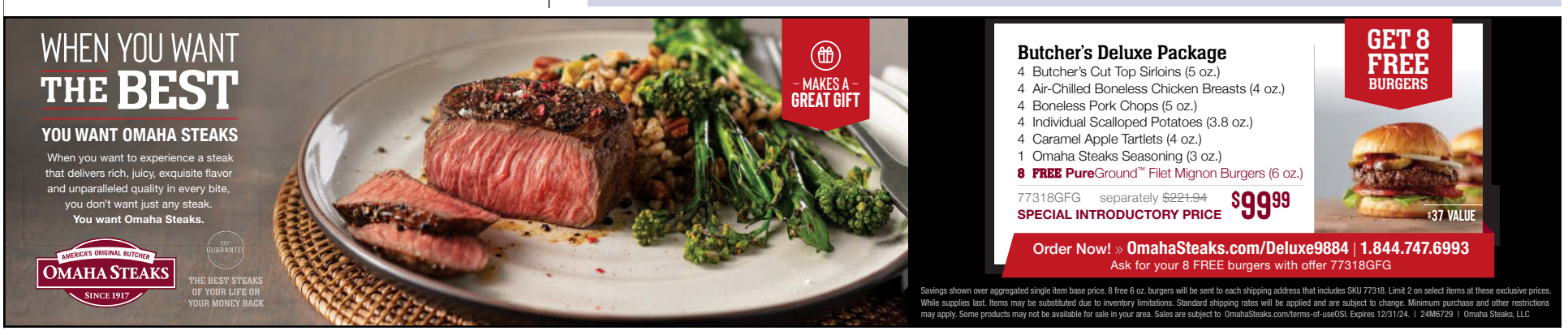
"We are a fairly young team but we're athletic. Right now we have to improve and cut down on our fouls. We have some kids right now that need time to develop. It's been kind of an uphill battle but we're showing improvement," Rodeslier said.

First-year Buchanan head coach Alex Austin remains upbeat about the season despite the setback.

"I thought our zone worked pretty well for us in the first half. We got a couple baskets and forced them to call an early timeout to start the second half. We got slow on a couple

See DEFENSE, Page B2

SCOTT HASSINGER | LEADER PUBLICATIONS
Buchanan's Alyssa Carson (44) and Justyce Cashier (22) battle Edwardsburg's Kourtney Zarycki (22) for a rebound.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ND's Watts, Mills earn Sporting News All-America honors

COMMUNITY REPORT

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — All-America First Team, while graduate defensive lineman Rylie Mills earned selection to The Sporting News All-America Second Team.

Watts is the first Notre Dame player to be honored as a First Team All-American by The Sporting News in consecutive seasons since defensive back Bobby Taylor in 1993 and 1994.

The Irish defense is one of the most complete defenses in the country, ranking among the FBS' top teams. At the end of the regular season, Notre Dame was first in team passing efficiency defense (94.10), first in turnovers gained (28), first in defensive touchdowns (6), third in scoring defense (13.6), fourth in passing yards allowed (157.9), fourth in interceptions (17), seventh in fumbles recovered (11), ninth in red zone defense (0.733), 10th in total defense (296.8) and 10th in first downs defense (197).

Watts, a Notre Dame team captain, has been named an Associated Press, AFCA and Walter Camp First-Team All-American, all three for the second-consecutive season. He was named to the 2024 FWAA All-American Second Team.

Watts has also been named a First-Team All-American by The Athletic, USA TODAY, Sports Illustrated and Pro Football Focus. Watts was named a First-Team Midseason All-American by Associated Press, The Sporting News, PFF, Athlon Sports, The Athletic and CBS Sports.

Watts earned Notre Dame's program Defensive Player of the Year award in 2024, and he was named a semifinalist for the 2024 Paycom Jim Thorpe Award and the 2024 Lott IMPACT Trophy.

Watts has totaled 12-career interceptions, the most by a Notre Dame player since 1996. He is the 19th Notre Dame player to intercept 10 or more passes and is tied for eighth on the all-time list for career interceptions in program history.

Watts ranks third in the nation in total interceptions (5), fourth in the nation in interceptions per game (0.4), and 12th in the country in passes defended (1.2 per game).

Notre Dame has gained 28 turnovers this season (tied for first in the nation). Watts is responsible for six of them (five interceptions, one fumble recovery).

Mills ranks tied for 11th all-time in career sacks in Notre Dame records with 16.0 on his career. He was the 14th Notre Dame player to record 15 or more sacks in his career.

Mills posted the best game of his career in the dominant 52-3 win over Florida State, notching

three sacks, two coming on back-to-back plays, and totaling five tackles with a QB hurry. Mills was the only Power 4 player that weekend to post three sacks, and one of just three FBS players to do so that weekend. He was the only to do so against a Power 4 opponent. Notre Dame's eight sacks in total were the most by any FBS team that weekend.

A team captain, Mills was honored with Notre Dame's program Iron Cross Award, recognizing commitment and determination in the weight room.

Slow start hinders Cassopolis in loss 52-28 loss to White Pigeon

By Scott Hassinger
Leader Publications
Contributor

CASSOPOLIS — Cassopolis and White Pigeon squared off Friday in an early-season Southwest 10 Conference girls basketball showdown at Ross-Beatty High School.

Both the Rangers and Lady Chiefs, league co-champions at 17-1 in the 2023-24 season, expect to be at the top again with most of their roster from a year ago still intact.

White Pigeon's quick start, size and pesky defense powered it to a 52-28 win over Cassopolis. It was the league opener for both schools.

Cassopolis head coach Stephon Luckey continues to stress to his team about playing better defense. The Lady Rangers gave up 65 points in a 65-8 loss to Buchanan followed by the 24-point setback to White Pigeon.

"We've had a problem putting the ball in the basket and a knack for turning it over. We didn't have as many turnovers tonight as we did last week against Buchanan. White Pigeon played extremely hard and we came out a little flat at the start of each half," Luckey said.

Cassopolis (0-1 league, 0-2) gained an early 3-1 lead following a three-pointer from junior guard Rylee Bowsher. But an 8-0 run, including a Sydney McClure triple, put White Pigeon in front 9-3. The Lady Chiefs went on to outscore the Rangers 7-4 the remainder of the quarter to grab a 16-7 advantage.

McClure scored the first six points of the second period to give her ballclub a 22-9 advantage. White Pigeon increased its lead to 33-11 by halftime. Junior 6-foot-0 postplayer Sadie McDaniel and teammate Amyia Wright both had four points in a 11-2 run for the Lady Chiefs to close the period.

Another Bowsher triple cut Cassopolis' deficit to 36-14 but the Lady Rangers still found themselves trailing its guests 42-18 entering the final eight minutes.

Cassopolis found some success in the fourth quarter at the foul stripe where it hit on 7-of-13 attempts. The Rangers also got solid play at the offensive and defensive end of the floor from junior guard JaMya Hart and freshman Madalynn Yakel.

"We started JaMya tonight and I thought it gave us some extra spark. She's one of our better defenders," Luckey added.

"Our bench has played pretty well in both of our games this season," Luckey said.

Bowsher paced Cassopolis in the scoring column with 13 points and Nola Hawkins added five for the Rangers, who made seven field-goal attempts and 10-of-18 free-throw attempts for the contest.

Hart finished with seven rebounds for Cassopois.

White Pigeon (1-0 league, 2-2) outrebounded Cassopolis by a 33-17 margin.

Three players reached double-digit scoring for White Pigeon led by McClure with 16. McDaniel added 14 points, including over half of those on offensive putbacks. Wright finished with 10 points and Shelby McDaniel chipped in with eight for the Lady Chiefs, who made 18 field-goal tries, including four triples, and 12-of-24 free-throw attempts.

"We controlled the basketball for most of the game, but we got a little tired in the second half. Cassopolis' gym is always a tough place to play so we talked to the kids before the game about keeping our composure and blocking out the noise, Our kids came out on fire defensively and then we were able to hit some shots and take care of the ball," said White Pigeon head coach Brooke McClure.

White Pigeon's coach praised the play of Sadie McDaniel inside.

"I've worked with our juniors and seniors ever since they were in third and fourth grade. They are all like daughters to me. Sadie struggles sometimes finishing her shot, but tonight she showed more confidence in doing that," said White Pigeon's coach.

"Our team just wants to win. It's not about how many points each of them score or how many rebounds they have. Nobody outshines the other. They all have their individual strengths, but they work together to do what it takes to be successful as a team."

Cassopolis finished with 21 turnovers to 16 miscues for White Pigeon.

"One of our biggest goals coming into the season is to win conference outright. Hopefully someone else beats White Pigeon and we get them next time around. We have to play more as a team and not as individuals. Our communication on defense isn't where it needs to be right now," Luckey said.

Cassopolis' success, especially the past two or three seasons, has revolved around its ability to get out in transition.

Luckey is counting on big performances this season from Hart and Bowsher, along with senior forward Janayla Franklin as well as Yakel and junior forward Cheyenne Redmond.

Freshman Maddie Nelson, a guard, will also add alot to the mix once she recovers from a sprained ankle.

Good team chemistry has been a big plus.

"The first game it looked like we hadn't all played together before but these kids are a real close group in practice and in the hallways and they show improvement each day," Luckey said.

"We're giving up too many offensive rebounds so we need to do a better job of boxing out," Luckey said.

Cassopolis finished 19-4 overall last season and lost in the district semifinals to Constantine.

HOOPS

Continued from page B1

it's about what's on our jersey and what it means when you take the court. You hold yourself to the standard of excellence and I think for the most part we've done that. These girls don't need a lot of motivation, they were three free throws away from the ultimate prize last. Yer so there's not a lot of motivation you need with this group. They're relentless in their pursuit of greatness and that makes my job as a coach really easy."

Schau and his young Chieftains squad aim to improve as a group one game at a time.

Our vision is to be a really good basketball team but we're focused on what we control," Schau said. "We focus on continuous development... We're super young right now – we have one senior, one returning starter and two returning varsity players so we are just focusing on getting better every single day and gelling as a team. We've had four weeks together so far and I think we have huge upside. They have to just continue to put the work in and get better every day."

On the boys side, the Bobcats (3-2) led 41-19 at halftime and outscored the Chieftains 23-14 in the third quarter to put the game away. Brandywine's Nylen Goins led all scorers with 21 points – 12 coming in the first quarter – and Ryder Richard tallied 15 points while Emerson Gogley and Will Hubbard scored 12 and 11 respectively.

For Dowagiac (0-5), Lamone Moore Jr. led the Chieftains with 16 points and Isaiah Fitchett added 14.

Remembering Scott Novak

Friday's games were dedicated in memory of longtime Leader Publications Sports Editor Scott Novak, who covered the Leaderpub sports scene for 42 years before passing away in October. The seat Novak often used to cover Brandywine games was reserved in his honor.

"Scott was more than just a sports reporter," Hood said. He really cared about Southwest Michigan, getting to know kids and just being a big fan of everybody. It was more fun for Scott talking to you before the game and shooting the breeze a little bit, having a great conversation. Scott was a Dowagiac guy at heart but he was a fan of all teams in our area. He's a local icon that's missed greatly. We miss seeing him in the chair but that's just a small thing that our school can do to remember Scott today."

Schau, who graduated from Dowagiac in 2001, remembers Novak covering his games as a Chieftain basketball player.

"My wife and I moved away for quite some time and then when we got back here in 2020 it was awesome to see him still safe on the sideline reporting and we caught up a few times," he said. "I love Scott, he meant so much to this entire area for just his presence and reporting and he always had a smile. I love that Brandywine did that; That's awesome."

DEFENSE

Continued from page B1

rotations in the third quarter and Edwardsburg hit two big threes. Mentally we got untracked there, but that's part of the game and you have to learn how to overcome adversity. We have to get through that now, remain positive and continue to support one another. It's moments like this that will help make us become a better team come playoff time. I still believe in our team because we have alot of talent here. It's just going to come down to implementing more discipline and execution, especially on the defensive side of the ball," Austin said.

Seven seniors give Austin hope that Buchanan will see that progress take place on a daily basis. That group includes Cam Carlson, Carson, Caitlyn Horvath, Maddie Young, Evyn Pruett, Ailes and Akirrah Robinson.

"Obviously we want to win every game. A state championship is the ultimate goal of everyone but of course not every team can go out and win that. What Coach (Nicole) Teska and I are trying to do right now as new coaches is to lay the groundwork while implementing our system and culture while emphasizing a family environment," Austin said. "That's something we feel is very important, especially with the group of seniors and juniors that we have with seven in each of those classes. We just want to make sure everyone is taking basketball serious but having fun at the same time. Our goal for many years to come is to continue building that culture and keep uplifting each other."

Berry, Lea Atkinson, Justyce Cashier, Danica Taylor, Makynna Williams, Gabie Frain and Nevaeh Nowak comprise the Lady Bucks' junior class.

Rounding out Buchanan's squad is sophomore Cora Weinberg.

SMC

Continued from page B1

athlete who comes to us with NCAA DII experience and a very strong high school and club volleyball background. I had the privilege of coaching Amie at Dunes Volleyball Club, and she can literally do it all; she has incredible court presence and volleyball IQ. She is intense on the net playing both outside and middle and is just as strong defensively as a six rotation player and leader. Amie knows how to score from every spot on the court, plays to win, and will challenge her teammates and those around her to practice, prepare, hustle, and compete at the highest level at all times. Academically, she is just as strong and is a leader in every sense of the word. We look forward to Amie stepping into a major role on the SMC Volleyball Team and are thrilled to welcome her."

Schutz is the fifth member of the 2025 SMC Volleyball class, joining Sophia Bachman and Isabella Tibbles of Buchanan, Randi Taylor of Lakeshore and Meah Evans of Constantine as new players on the Roadrunners squad.

SMC Volleyball finished the 2024 season with a winning record of 22-16, including a win over the previously undefeated and nationally-ranked McHenry County Scots. The Roadrunners were 7-5 in the MCCAA Western Conference, qualifying for the Great Lakes District Tournament for the third consecutive year, advancing in the bracket twice. Individual Roadrunners earned seven conference and regional awards, including All-Freshman Team, All-Conference Honorable Mention, All-Conference Second Team, All-Conference First Team, All-MCCAA Team and All-Region Team.

Three Spartans named to East-West Shrine Bowl All-Century Team

COMMUNITY REPORT

EAST LANSING — Three Michigan State Spartans – halfback Herb Adderley, offensive lineman Joe DeLamielleure and wide receiver Andre Rison – have been named to the East-West Shrine Bowl All-Century Team.

The East-West Shrine Bowl announced its All-Century Team in celebration of the upcoming 100th edition of the oldest college football all-star game in the nation.

The collection of former all-stars includes 80 Pro Football Hall of Fame members, including Adderley and DeLamielleure, who are both enshrined in Canton.

In addition, Adderley, DeLamielleure and Rison are all in the Michigan State Athletics Hall of Fame.

The 100th East-West Shrine Bowl will kick off on Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025, at 8 p.m. ET in AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas, and will be nationally televised in prime time on the NFL Network. Michigan State's Luke Newman, who started all 12 games for the Spartans in 2024 at left guard, recently accepted his invitation to the all-star game.

A total of 103 Spartans have participated in the East-West Shrine Bowl over the past 100 years, which originated in San Francisco in 1925 and was played there until 2005; the game has also been played in San Antonio (2006), Houston (2007-09), Orlando (2010-11), St. Petersburg (2012-22), Las Vegas (2023) and Frisco, Texas (2024). In addition, three former Spartan head coaches served as the head coach in the game, including Biggie Munn (1952-53), Duffy Daugherty (1958, 1959, 1966, 1968) and George Perles (1988). Darryl Rogers was an assistant coach in 1980.

Former Dowagiac standout Dan Underwood participated in the bowl in 1963.

Since 1925, the East-West Shrine Bowl has benefited Shriners Children's and its mission to provide advanced care for children with orthopedic conditions, burns, spinal cord injuries, and cleft lip and palate, regardless of the families' ability to pay or insurance status.

DAILY DATA

BOYS BASKETBALL

BERRIEN SPRINGS 69, BUCHANAN 47
Dec. 12 At Buchanan
BERRIEN SPRINGS (69): Munashe Mutero 4, Cooper Rice 2, Brady Blasko 22, Ethan McCrary 11, Micah McFarland 5, J.J. Frakes 14, Alex O'Dell 2, Brody Brewer 9. Totals 21 21-28 69.
BUCHANAN (47): Tyler Frame 6, Preston Payne 3, Liam McBeth 4, Karmine Brown 19, Jake Franklin 0, Logan Wiggins 7, Owen Thompson 6, Ari Johnson 2. Totals 16 8-13 47.
Berrien Springs 20 40 50 69
Buchanan 9 23 39 47
3-point baskets: Berrien Springs 6 (McCrary 3, Blasko 2, Brewers 1), Buchanan 7 (Brown 5, Payne 1, Wiggins 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Berrien Springs 17, Buchanan 24 (McBeth, Franklin). Records: Berrien Springs 2-2 (1-0 Lakeland Conference), Buchanan 2-3 (0-2 Lakeland Conference).

NILES 65, STURGIS 32
Dec. 13 at Niles
STURGIS (32): Carson Eicher 7, Lukis Bir 15, Gavyn Moore 6, Dawson Miller 2, Gavin Lewis 2. Totals 12 1-2 32.
NILES (65): Quinton King Jr. 2, Brayden Favors 16, Andre Wells Jr. 22, Brenden Olsen 13, Derek Hills Jr. 6, Donovyn Williams 6. Totals 23 12-14 65.
Sturgis 8 17 27 32
Niles 19 34 49 65
3-point baskets: Sturgis 7 (Bir 4, Moore 2, Eicher 1), Niles 7 (Wells Jr. 3, Hill Jr. 2, Favors 1, Olsen 1). Total fouls: Sturgis 14, Niles 10. Records: Sturgis 1-4 (0-3 Wolverine Conference), Niles 3-2 (3-1 Wolverine Conference).

BRANDYWINE 69, DOWAGIAC 52
Dec. 13 at Niles
DOWAGIAC (52): Jamal Williams 4, Lamone Moore Jr. 16, Braylon Wade 3, Isaiah Fitchett 14, Caleb Smith 1, Brayden Diaz 1, Artie Ruiz 6, Isaiah Weatherspoon 1, Chase Frazier 6, Riley McCaffrey 0. Totals 20 8-20 52.
BRANDYWINE (69): J.J. Henry 5, Nylen Goins 21, Will Hubbard 11, Ryder Richard 15, Emerson Gogley 12, Elijhia Burt 0, Mason Michilin 0, Shivam Deudhara 1, Mason Simmons 3, Jordan Hester 1. Totals 27 10-25 69.
Dowagiac 12 19 33 52
Brandywine 24 41 64 69
3-point baskets: Dowagiac 4 (Fitchett 2, Williams 1, Moore Jr. 1), Brandywine 5 (Goins 2, Henry 1, Richard 1, Simmons 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Dowagiac 24, Brandywine 15 (Hubbard). Records: Dowagiac 0-5 (0-2 Lakeland Conference), Brandywine 3-2 (2-0 Lakeland Conference).
Highlights: Goins scored 12 in the first quarter for Brandywine.

EDWARDSBURG 71, OTSEGO 56
Dec. 13 at Edwardsburg
OTSEGO (56): Louis DiGrandi 21, Owen Santman 9, Kal-el Leonard 5, Matthew Long 10, Scottie Duer 5, Mayson Roden 6. Totals 23 6-11 56.
EDWARDSBURG (71): Joe Shively 8, Brody Schimpa 34, Maverick Gates 0, Conor Solarek 6, Blaise Crist 0, Nick Springer 4, Michael Wright 2, Ayden Billingsley 3, Reed Gates 2, Matt Anders 12. Totals 24 15-18 71.
Otsego 10 24 43 56
Edwardsburg 17 33 58 71
3-point baskets: Otsego 4 (Long 2, Leonard 1, Santman 1), Edwardsburg 8 (Schimpa 5, Shively 2, Ayden Billingsley 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Otsego 21 (Long), Edwardsburg 14. Records: Otsego 1-3 (0-3 Wolverine Conference), Edwardsburg 3-1 (2-1 Wolverine Conference).
Highlights: Schimpa scored 17 in the third quarter for Edwardsburg.

EDWARDSBURG 55, HOWARDSVILLE CHRISTIAN 46
Dec. 14 at Southwestern Michigan College Showcase
HOWARDSVILLE CHRISTIAN (46): Kaden Sparks 27, JohnPaul Rose 17, Sean Kimble 0, Jonah West 2, Isaac Nagle 0. Totals 20 4-6 46.
EDWARDSBURG (55): Joe Shively 4, Brody Schimpa 11, Maverick Gates 2, Conor Solarek 10, Blaise Crist 1, Nick Springer 10, Michael Wright 0, Ayden Billingsley 3, Reed Gates 2, Matt Anders 12. Totals 24 5-7 55.
Howardsville Christian 3 12 32 46
Edwardsburg 14 35 48 55
3-point baskets: Howardsville Christian 2 (Sparks 2), Edwardsburg 2 (Springer 1, Billingsley 1). Total fouls: Howardsville Christian 11, Edwardsburg 10. Records: Howardsville Christian 1-5, Edwardsburg 4-1

NORTH LAWNDALE, Ill., 68, DOWAGIAC 50
Dec. 14 at Southwestern Michigan College Showcase
NORTH LAWNDALE (68): Tomorion Smith 12, Nicario Knox 8, Akeem Goodwin 2, Thomas Hayes 12, Tywon Madison 11, Jarell Agnew-Webb 8, J. Stephens 5, Jamarion Walker 8, Early Roland 2. Totals 32 2-3 68.
DOWAGIAC (50): Jamal Williams 3, Lamone Moore Jr. 6, Braylon Wade 7, Isaiah Fitchett 20, Brayden Diaz 4, Loren Bowen 2, Chase Frazier 7, Riley McCaffery 1. Totals 18 8-10 50.
North Lawndale 21 40 54 68
Dowagiac 15 26 42 50
3-point baskets: North Lawndale 2 (Madison 1, Stephens 1), Dowagiac 6 (Fitchett 4, Williams 1, Wade 1). Total fouls: North Lawndale 11, Dowagiac 6. Records: North Lawndale 5-2, Dowagiac 0-6
BUCHANAN 70, OUR LADY OF THE LAKES CATHOLIC 34
Dec. 17 at Buchanan
OUR LADY OF THE LAKES CATHOLIC (34): Evan Watts 5, Eli McLoughlin 5, Sebby Douglas 2, Dylan Sargent 4, Brayden Harper 2, Connor Yankauskas 4, Anthony Jasheway 12. Totals 15 2-5 34.
BUCHANAN (70): Tyler Frame 8, Preston Payne 2, Liam McBeth 7, Tristan Nesbitt 1, Karmine Brown 15, Jake Franklin 8, Darius Williams 4, Logan Wiggins 12, Will Carson 4, Owen Thompson 2, Ari Johnson 5, Ben Bosse 2, Marley Hinds 0, Jaret Seddon 0. Totals 32 6-11 70.
Catholic 11 21 29 34
Buchanan 20 38 59 70
3-point baskets: Catholic 2 (Jasheway 1, McLoughlin 1), Buchanan 5 (Franklin 2, Brown 1, McBeth 1, Bosse 1). Total fouls: Catholic 7, Buchanan 10. Records: Catholic 2-3, Buchanan 3-3

COLOMA 63, DOWAGIAC 58
Dec. 17 at Coloma
DOWAGIAC (58): Jamal Williams 3, Lamone Moore Jr. 14, Braylon Wade 4, Isaiah Fitchett 18, Caleb Smith 3, Brayden Diaz 12, Artie Ruiz 1, Chase Frazier 3, Riley McCaffery 0. Totals 18 18-25 58.
COLOMA (63): Tyrell Taylor 20, Xavier Pompey 17, Cole Brown 3, C. Ashley 4, Ryan Schroeder 2, R.J. Allen 3, A.J. Moore 8, C. Hartman 6. Totals 23 9-19 63.
Dowagiac 7 30 39 58
Coloma 18 33 49 63
3-point baskets: Dowagiac 4 (Moore Jr. 2, Fitchett 2), Coloma 8 (Taylor 4, Pompey 2, Brown 1, Allen 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Dowagiac 23 (Williams, Frazier), Coloma 22. Records: Dowagiac 0-7, Coloma 4-2

PORTAGE NORTHERN 64, NILES 52
Dec. 17 at Portage
NILES (52): Quinton King Jr. 6, Brayden Favors 20, Andre Wells Jr. 18, Derek Hill Jr. 2, Donovyn Williams 6. Totals 18 12-15 52
PORTAGE NORTHERN (64): Antwayn Spencer 5, Amari Lewis 30, Swanson 15, Stephen Wells 7, McIntyre 5, Brady Kraegel 1, Gregory Patrick 1. Totals 26 11-21 64.
Niles 10 18 27 52
Portage Northern 7 20 42 64
3-point baskets: Niles 4 (Favors 2, King Jr. 1, Wells Jr. 1), Portage Northern 1 (Wells 1). Total Fouls: Niles 15, Portage Northern 14. Records: Niles 3-3, Portage Northern 3-1

EDWARDSBURG 45, MATTAWAN 36
Dec. 17 at Mattawan
EDWARDSBURG (45): Joe Shively 9, Brody Schimpa 11, Blaise Crist 9, Michael Wright 4, Arden Billingsley 0, Reed Gates 4, Matt Anders 8. Totals 17 7-11 45.
MATTAWAN (36): Hayden Campbell 12, Everett Wherley 2, Caleb Goodrich 6, Liam Walsh 8, Ethan Bouma 6, Peter Drelles 2. Totals 14 4-6 36.
Edwardsburg 14 21 30 45
Mattawan 13 22 32 36
3-point baskets: Edwardsburg 4 (Schimpa 2, Shively 2), Mattawan 4 (Goodrich 2, Walsh 2). Total fouls: Edwardsburg 10, Mattawan 18. Records: Edwardsburg 5-1, Mattawan 0-4.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

BRANDYWINE 61, DOWAGIAC 26
Dec. 13 at Niles
DOWAGIAC (26): Claire Hess 3, Shamyra Clark 4, Marlie Carpenter 10, Zabrina Shivers 3, Evie Lock 6, Brenna Mott 0, Niya Moss 0. Totals 9 5-9 26.
BRANDYWINE (61): Adeline Gill 13, Karleigh Byrd 11, Adelyn Drotoz 5, Ireland Prenkert 0, Mackenna Price 0, Lily Gill 12, Lexi Troup 9, Paige Krisler 0, Miley Young 9, Niyah Mason 0, Brook Brumitt 2. Totals 25 6-9 61.
Dowagiac 6 10 15 26
Brandywine 20 41 56 61
3-point baskets: Dowagiac 3 (Lock 2, Hess 1), Brandywine 5 (Byrd 2, Troup 2, Drotoz 1). Total fouls: Dowagiac 8, Brandywine 10. Records: Dowagiac 1-2 (1-1 Lakeland Conference), Brandywine 4-0 (2-0 Lakeland Conference).

WHITE PIGEON 52, CASSOPOLIS 28
Dec. 13 at Cassopolis
WHITE PIGEON (52): Shelby McDaniel 8, Amyia Wright 10, JamieLynn Delarye 1, Kenlee Schrader 3, Sydney McClure 16, Sadie McDaniel 14. Totals 18 12-24 52.
CASSOPOLIS (28): Mackenzie Boyer 1, Janayla Franklin 2, JaMya Hart 3, Madalynn Yakel 2, Nola Hawkins 5, Alaina Grissom 1, Cheyenne Redmond 1, Ryley Bowsher 13. Totals 7 10-18 28.
White Pigeon 16 33 42 52
Cassopolis 7 11 18 28
3-point baskets: White Pigeon 4 (McClure 2, Schrader 1, Wright 1), Cassopolis 4 (Bowsher 3, Hawkins 1). Total fouls: White Pigeon 18, Cassopolis 18. Records: White Pigeon 1-2 (1-0 Southwest 10), Cassopolis 0-2 (0-1 Southwest 10).

BERRIEN SPRINGS 43, BUCHANAN 41
Dec. 13 at Berrien Springs
BUCHANAN (41): Caitlin Horvath 13, Maddie Young 8, Aspen Berry 0, Evyn Pruett 2, Justyce Cashier 3, Katie Ailes 8, Alyssa Carson 7. Totals 15 5-12 41.
BERRIEN SPRINGS (43): Adeline Weber 3, Zion Ellis 16, Kathryn Bergan 1, Addison Frakes 9, Maria Andrson 0, Aubre Smith 14. Totals 18 4-17 43.
Buchanan 16 24 36 41
Berrien Springs 16 23 34 43
3-point baskets: Buchanan 6 (Horvath 4, Young 1, Carson 1), Berrien Springs 3 (Weber 1, Ellis 1, Frakes 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Buchanan 16 (Carson), Berrien Springs 14. Records: Buchanan 2-3 (0-2 Lakeland Conference), Berrien Springs 2-0 (1-0 Lakeland Conference).

STURGIS 50, NILES 33
Dec. 13 at Niles
STURGIS (50): Angela Cary 3, Kylie Brooks 2, Madison Webb 8, Kennedy Finnerman 2, Sydney Bir 16, Cora Phillips 17, Kenzie Eicher 2. Totals 19 8-22 50.
NILES (33): Jessie Thornton 16, Tanaya Brown 9, Maddie Zache 1, Kayla Kiggins 2, Mia Holmes 3, Ari Gerrits 2. Totals 12 6-10 33.
Sturgis 3 19 40 50
Niles 8 13 18 33
3-point baskets: Sturgis 4 (Phillips 3, Bir 1), Niles 3 (Thornton 1, Brown 1, Holmes 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Sturgis 16, Niles 18 (Brown, Gerrits). Records: Sturgis 2-2 (1-2 Wolverine Conference), Niles 1-3 (0-3 Wolverine Conference).

EDWARDSBURG 34, OTSEGO 28
Dec. 13 at Edwardsburg
OTSEGO (28): Allie Proctor 2, Peyton Johnson 2, Reagen Engbers 7, Mya Engbers 5, Tessa Proogh 12, Audrey Lingbeek 0. Totals 9 9-19 28.
EDWARDSBURG (34): Shelby Laubach 9, Ella Zache 6, Maddie Pobuda 10, Kourtney Zarycki 0, Mya Eberlein 6, Kya Shier 3. Totals 10 12-21 34.
Otsego 7 9 22 28
Edwardsburg 11 18 23 34
3-point baskets: Otsego 1 (M. Engbers 1), Edwardsburg 2 (Laubach 1, Pobuda 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Otsego 19 (Lingbeek), Edwardsburg 18. Records: Otsego 2-2 (2-1 Wolverine Conference), Edwardsburg 2-2 (2-1 Wolverine Conference).

EDWARDSBURG 39, HARVEY THORNTON, Ill. 18
Dec. 14 at Southwestern Michigan College Showcase
HARVEY THORNTON (18): Kamiyah Boone 3, Jaida Reno 1, Cayla Abraham 2, Sajda Tyehimber 4, Amiyah Jones 8. Totals 7 4-6 18.
EDWARDSBURG (39): Shelby Laubach 3, Ella Zache 11, Maddie Pobuda 8, Kourtney Zarycki 11, Mya Eberlein 2, Kya Shier 4. Totals 14 6-11 39.
Harvey Thornton 5 7 14 18
Edwardsburg 18 25 35 39
3-point baskets: Harvey Thornton 0, Edwardsburg 5 (Pobuda 2, Zache 2, Laubach 1). Total fouls: Harvey Thornton 15, Edwardsburg 9. Records: Harvey Thornton 3-4, Edwardsburg 3-2

GOSHEN 47, DOWAGIAC 27
Dec. 14 at Southwestern Michigan College Showcase
GOSHEN (47): Ava Yordy 23, Sorin Revoir 2, Sueann Watt 10, Yesenia Medina 3, Taryn Hill 7, Christina Linn 2. Totals 18 10-17 47.
DOWAGIAC (27): Claire Hess 0, Marlie Carpenter 11, Evie Lock 0, Olivia McIntosh 14, Brenna Mott 2. Totals 8 7-12 27.
Goshen 9 23 34 47
Dowagiac 9 15 22 27
3-point baskets: Goshen 1 (Medina 1), Dowagiac 4 (McIntosh 4). Total fouls: Goshen 11, Dowagiac 14. Records: Goshen 6-7, Dowagiac 1-3

EDWARDSBURG 36, BUCHANAN 16
Dec. 17 at Edwardsburg
BUCHANAN (16): Caitlin Horvath 0, Aspen Berry 4, Evyn Pruett 0, Justyce Cashier 0, Katie Ailes 4, Alyssa Carson 8. Totals 6 2-4 16.
EDWARDSBURG (36): Shelby Laubach 2, Ella Zache 4, Paddie Pobuda 12, Kourtney Zarycki 6, Mya Eberlein 10, Kya Shier 2. Totals 13 6-12 36.
Buchanan 2 11 16 16
Edwardsburg 7 17 21 36
3-point baskets: Buchanan 2 (Carson 2), Edwardsburg 4 (Pobuda 4). Total fouls: Buchanan 8, Edwardsburg 6. Records: Buchanan 2-4, Edwardsburg 3-2

CASSOPOLIS 41, BLOOMINGDALE 19
Dec. 17 at Bloomingdale
CASSOPOLIS (41): Mackenzie Boyer 8, Janayla Franklin 0, Jamya Hart 3, Madalynn Yakel 7, Nola Hawkins 3, Cheyenne Redmond 2, Madison Nelson 6, Ryley Bowsher 11, Alexandra Westphal 1. Totals 11 13-27 41.
BLOOMINGDALE (19): Gracie Hutchins 6, Deeahna Cross 1, Emily Latham 4, Cadence Williams 2, N. Gumpert 6. Totals 5 8-28 19.
Cassopolis 9 22 31 41
Bloomingdale 3 10 15 19
3-point baskets: Cassopolis 4 (Boyer 2, Bowsher 1, Yakel 1), Bloomingdale 1 (Latham 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Cassopolis 24 (Hawkins), Bloomingdale 19 (Cross, Latham). Records: Cassopolis 1-2 (1-1 Southwest 10), Bloomingdale 1-3 (1-1 Southwest 10).

DOWAGIAC 74, COLOMA 40
Dec. 17 at Dowagiac
COLOMA (40): Tatum Arend 11, Karsyn Jacobs 10, Mayh Dyson 13, M. Harris 3, L. Groendyk 3. Totals 14 9-26 40.
DOWAGIAC (74): Claire Hess 11, Shamyra Clark 5, Marlie Carpenter 21, Zabrina Shivers 4, Brenna Mott 5, Niya Moss 10, Evie Lock 8, Olivia McIntosh 5, Bree Campbell 3, Jaimela Bonds 2. Totals 27 11-22 74.
Coloma 9 20 27 40
Dowagiac 17 30 53 74
3-point baskets: Coloma 3 (Dyson 3), Dowagiac 9 (Moss 2, Lock 2, Hess 1, Clark 1, Mott 1, McIntosh 1, Campbell 1). Total fouls (fouled out): Coloma 21 (Arend, Harris). Dowagiac 20. Records: Coloma 0-5, Dowagiac 2-3

Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

The December 12, 2024, Bertrand Charter Township Board Regular Meeting draft minutes have been posted at the Bertrand Charter Township Hall, 3835 Buffalo Road, Buchanan, MI 49107 and on the township website (bertrandtwpmi.gov). Polly White, Clerk Bertrand Charter Township

Niles Daily Star:
Dec. 21, 2024
MEETING

PUBLIC NOTICE

SYNOPSIS OF THE MINUTES OF THE ONTWA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MONDAY DECEMBER 9, 2024

The regular meeting of the Ontwa Township Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00pm.
Roll call showed Supervisor Christensen, Clerk VanBelle, Treasurer Leist, Trustees Stutsman, and Bolock were present. Trustee Kozinski arrived at 7:11pm. Trustee Marchetti was absent.
Approval of the Agenda
Public Comment: Patricia Patzer spoke on the proposed pickleball court at the Edwardsburg Sports Complex.
Approval of Consent Agenda
Committee Board Reports
Old Business: Elkhart Road Project
New Business: 2025 Ontwa Township Poverty Guidelines, Wastewater CT Electrical Services, Wastewater-Selge- Ontwa Township Shed Slab, Board reappointments, Cleaning Bid, Pickleball Court.
Schedule of township meetings: Board of Trustees January 13, 2025, Police Board December 12th , Wastewater Board December 18th , Planning Commission January 8th .
Meeting Adjourned 7:56pm.
Minutes of Board of Trustee meetings may be found on the Township website:
www.ontwatwp.org
Respectfully submitted by Tina VanBelle, Ontwa Township Clerk
Approved for Publication by Supervisor Jerry Marchetti

Niles Daily Star:
Dec. 21, 2024
SYNOPSIS 12.09.24

PUBLIC NOTICE

Economy Storage, 2206 Yankee Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday December 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Unit #	Name
10	Charmin Kelly
32	Eric Johnson
56	Nathan Thomas
67	Jerom Jankowiak
99	Jimmie Tayler
108	Terry Riege
113	Tanner Sinclair
114	Tellie Doan
116	Melissa Kaeding
125/179	Steve Kelley
145/467/468	Michael Merritt

Public Notices

148	Gloster Johnson
157	Glen Wynegar
164	Brady Hattenback
166	Crystal Tripp
177	Larry Wegrecki
191	Alan Smith
195	Daniel Beushauser
205	Nancy Bombrys
217	James Russell
228/367	Shawnette Booker
255	Philip Trowbridge
261	Amanda Sharmer
269	Kacey Gogley
278	Chelsie Carlyle
284	Kathleen Peterson
331	Valerie Outlaw
337	Nikalas Wodatzke
342	Terrence Moss
346	DaMonica Williams
356	Chase Molica
375	Jenna Shirrell
379	Bobbie Helms
386	Shannon Lego
389	Parnell Jenkins
392	Asia Shirall
442	Dawn Hojara
451	Jean Fitch
452	Tyler Mahar
459	Jethrow Kyles
486	Leigh Anne Norris
529	Robert Wojcik
538	Joe Rose
541	Nicole Hurt
545	Candy Whitmire
577	Stephanie Pellow
596/552/566	Anthony Marzolo
605	Michael Lewark
608	Robert Conner
628/499	Altavious Stone
638	Britney Stanczyk
661	Rodney Prescott
677/567	Julie Potate

Niles U-Stor-It, 1314 E. Main Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday December 28, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.

23	Henry Krueger
49	Miranda Wendzel

J & J Storage, 2220 S. 13th Street and 2627 S. 11th Street, Niles, MI 49120. Auction Saturday December 28, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

170A	Mellisa Visel
125	Kristina Hemminger
140	Ronnie West
168	Jerol Williams Jr.
206	Larry Morbach
238/466	James Diss
250	Robert Clayton/ Jessica Vissik
253	Jesse Williams
263	Tamara Holmes
282/294	Joseph Barnes
292	The Woodshed Crafts
345	Carol Morrow
355	Carson Bowlin
359	Christina Bright
373	Rhonda Sue Outlaw
443	Autum Collins

Niles Daily Star:
Dec. 14 and 21, 2024
STORAGE AUCTION

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Legal Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT 811 PORT STREET, ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085 (269) 983-7111
SHERRI M. EGMER, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ESTATE OF CAROL ANN EGMER, DECEASED
PLAINTIFF,
VS
FILE No 2024-0288CH- S
ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
HEIRS and SUCCESSORS OF GLEN JARMAN, NELLIE JARMAN
And ANYONE CLAIMING INTEREST IN MODULAR STRUCTURE
Defendants.
JOHN R. COLIP (P25250)
Attorney for Plaintiff
12 Longmeadow Village Dr., Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120
(269) 591-6915
ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
AT A SESSION of said Court at the Courthouse in the City of St. Joseph, Berrien County, Michigan, on November 8, 2024.
STERLING R. SCHROCK, Trial Court Judge
PRESENT: Honorable Sterling R. Schrock, Trial Court Judge
On Motion of Plaintiff, Sherri M. Egmer, Personal Representative of the Estate of Carl Ann Egmer, by and through its attorney, JOHN R. COLIP Esq., of the law firm of BUTZEL LONG, herein; the Court having read the verified Motion for Substituted Service, and being fully advised in the premises:
NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, That Plaintiff's Motion for Substituted Service be, and it is hereby granted, and that service shall be made upon Defendants, in this matter by: (i) posting a copy of this Order with Attachment "A" in the Courthouse and in two other public places in Niles Township for three continuous weeks; and (ii) publishing this Order with Attachment "A" in the Leader, a newspaper published in Berrien County, Michigan, for three consecutive weeks.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED That PDQ Services is to post this Oder with Attachment "A" and provide proof of posting in compliance with this Order and file Proof of Posting with this Court.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that mailing a copy of this Order to Unknown Parties, their Heirs and Successors, is not necessary since there is no ascertainable way to determine the address nor the specific identity of those Defendants.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attachment "A" is made a part of this Order and will accompany any posting or publication.
STERLING R. SCHROCK
Date: November 18 2024
Honorable
Prepared by:
John R. Colip, Esq. (P25250
12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120
269-591-6915
ATTACHMENT "A" TO ORDER FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF ACTION
An action to Quiet Title has been filed in the Berrien County Circuit Court, in the State of Michigan. This action, File Number 2024-0288-CH-S, is filed by Plaintiff, Sherri M. Egmer, Personal Representative of the Estate of Carol Ann Egmer, against Defendants: Heirs and Successors of Glen Jarman, Nellie Jarman and Anyone Claiming Interest in Modular Structure claiming any right or title to property located in Niles Township, Berrien County, Michigan and legally described as:
That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 24, Township 7 South, Range 17 West, Niles Township, Berrien Conty, Michigan, described as follows, to-wit: thence South 211 feet; thence West 230 feet; thence North 211 feet; thence East 230 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 1.1 acres, more or less.
You must file your answer or take other action permitted by law in the Berrien County Circuit Court at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085, on or before 28 days from the date of last publication. If you fail to do so, a Default Judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint filed in this case. You may contact the law offices of BUTZEL LONG, 12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100, Niles, MI 49120, 269-591-6915, for any information on this matter.
Prepared By:
John R. Colip, Esq. (P25250)
12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120
269-591-6915

Niles Daily Star:
Dec. 7, 14 and 21, 2024
2024-0288-CH-S

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LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT BERRIEN COUNTY NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE CASE NO. 2024-1063-DE-R

COURT ADDRESS 811 PORT STREET, ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085 269-983-7111

Estate of Cynthia J. Scharmach, deceased
Date of Birth: December 1, 1952
TO ALL CREDITORS:**
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Cynthia J. Scharmach, Died October 14, 2024.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Lena G. Scharmach, personal representative, or to both the probate court of 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

John R. Colip (P25250)
12 Longmeadow Village Drive, Suite 100 Niles, MI 49120
269-591-6915

Lena G. Scharmach 1521 Medford Lane Mishawaka, IN 46544
574-299-3200

Niles Daily Star:
Dec. 21, 2024
EST/HEMINGER, J.

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3. Per the "5th, 6th, 7th and 8th FCC Measuring Broadband American Reports." Go to: https://www.hughes.com/who-we-are/resources/press-releases/
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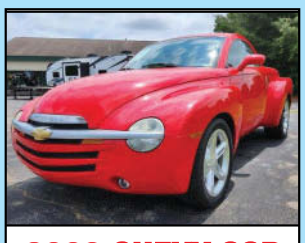

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